

Hafa Adai!

4 NMI thespians get callbacks. **PAGE 5**  
Star Marianas: Many factors affect Rota airfare increase. **PAGE 6**

# Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVIII, Issue No. 147

[www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

THURSDAY JULY 26, 2018

[www.facebook.com/saipantribune](http://www.facebook.com/saipantribune)

75¢

## CW program extended to 2029

By ERWIN ENCINARES  
erwin\_encinares@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

**A**s widely expected, U.S. President Donald J. Trump enacted early morning yesterday—by the statutory deadline—a measure that extends the Commonwealth's foreign worker program to 2029 and sets the number of workers per year until the program winds down.

A 7:30am announcement by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' administration, followed by an announcement by Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan's (Ind-MP) office a few minutes later, confirmed that Trump signed U.S. Rep. Rob Bishop's (R-UT) H.R. 5956. Sablan co-sponsored the bill.

Torres expressed relief and gratitude, citing the over two years of discussions to get the measure over

See CW on **Page 4**

By JON PEREZ  
jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Rene Batallones and Lito Mendoza are just two of the small business owners who felt relief after the NMI Workforce Act of 2018 was signed

into law yesterday by President Donald Trump.

The bill's enactment was also welcome news to thousands of the Commonwealth's foreign workers who have been eagerly awaiting the news as it would impact their employment

status in the CNMI.

Batallones owns an automobile repair shop and a small construction firm under Automotion Inc., while Mendoza operates Tropex Garden and Traders Insurance. Both said

See RELIEF on **Page 4**



Two construction workers check one of the machines they use at the Imperial Pacific Resort job site in Garapan yesterday.

### INSIDE



### BUSINESS

The Trump administration will provide \$12 billion to ease the pain of American farmers.

**PAGE 16**



### ASIA

Massive flooding from a hydroelectric dam in Laos left hundreds missing.

**PAGE 18**



### WORLD

The death toll from Greece's deadliest wildfires in decades has climbed to 74.

**PAGE 19**



SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE  
QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED  
ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.



GOT A NEWS TIP?

TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440

FAX: 235-3740

EMAIL: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com)

# Local

## PICT introduces new lunch buffet special

The iconic Magellan Restaurant at Pacific Islands Club Saipan launched a new lunch buffet special menu last July 16, highlighting different flavors from around the world.

Executive chef Rino Cancaida said the idea is to attract the international palate of hotel guests and local patrons.

"We think about our customers—locals and foreigners alike. They are our priority and making them happy and satisfied with our different lunch menus is the inspiration for the new lineup," he added.

PICT's new lunch buffet menu features Italian food on Mondays, Japanese food on Tuesdays, Thai on Wednesdays, Korean on Thursdays, international dishes on Fridays, Chinese fare on Saturdays, and a varying menu that highlights brunch on Sundays.

And it's not your typical gastronomic fare either. According to Cancaida, the buffet menu features specialty dishes.



**Pacific Islands Club executive chef Rino Cancaida presents a Magellan Restaurant Italian lunch buffet menu specialty, Verdure Al'Aglio Imburrate. You can savor this dish and more at PICT's special lunch buffet menu happening from Monday to Saturday, from 11am to 2pm.**

BEA CABRERA

"For Italian, we are proud of our *Verdure Al' Aglio Imburrate*, composed of spicy tomato sauce on top of homemade pasta. It is very

simple but it bursts with lots of flavor. For Japanese, we have *nikujaga*, which is beef and potato simmered in sweet soy sauce and *negi*,

*negi*, which is fried chicken with leeks and scallion. For Thai, we have our delectable version of *pad thai* and stir-fry green mussel in Thai red

coconut curry sauce. For Korean, we have the popular Korean marinated beef barbecue and for Chinese, our guests should look forward

to the spicy Szechuan stir-fry pork. Our international dishes vary as they are composed of American, European and Asian specials," he said.

"Our guests should also expect 'icons' on some dishes. This will tell them the level of spice in the dish and ingredients used so that guests who have food allergies will be aware. We also cater to our health-conscious and dessert-loving guests as our salad bar and dessert menu are a staple," he added.

As a PICT chef for the last 15 years, Cancaido attributes PICT's achievement to comments and suggestions of guests. "We are always looking for improvement. We base our food on the comments we receive, not only from our customers but even from our own employees as feedback is very important to us," he said. "We are very flexible and are always after customer satisfaction," he added.

The lunch buffet special at Magellan Restaurant is available Monday to Saturday for the local rate of \$21.60 per adult and \$10.80 for children 4 to 11 years old.

For direct restaurant reservations, call 670-237-5126. (Bea Cabrera)



HONGYAN INTERNATIONAL CNMI LLC  
LADDER BEACH RESTAURANT

### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

POSITIONS FOR IMMEDIATE HIRE:

MANAGER WAIT STAFF  
JANITOR CHEF  
ASST.COOK SUPERVISOR



[HTTP://JOIN.LADDERBEACHRESTAURANT.COM](http://join.ladderbeachrestaurant.com)

Enter the URL to access the electronic application

EMAIL:CARMSABLANHE@GMAIL.COM

WWW.LADDERBEACHRESTAURANT.COM  
CALL:285-2845/285-8928  
ADDRESS:LADDER BEACH OBYAN

## OPA: DPL falls short in managing land leases, permits

By ERWIN ENCINARES  
erwin\_encinare@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A report from the Office of the Public Auditor did "commend" the Department of Public Lands but notes that the agency seems to be finding it hard to manage public land leases and permits.

According to an OPA audit released on July 17, 2018, DPL was found without "sufficient internal controls" that would allow it to effectively manage public land leases and permits.

The report said that DPL failed to adopt an updated comprehensive land use plan; renew leases and temporary permits in a timely manner; monitor compliance with lease and permit agreements closely; produce billing records, accurately assess fees, and keep reliable records; communicate with the Rota and Tinian district offices; and adopt standard operating procedures for the management of public land leases and permits.

"OPA commends DPL for its effort toward updating the CNMI Comprehensive Land Use Plan after a 12-year delay. The updated plan will serve as both a physical and policy-based blueprint to manage future development and related stewardship of public lands

in the CNMI," noted the OPA report, adding that a draft plan was developed in February 2018 and is expected to be completed before August 2018.

"We found, however, that without the necessary controls in place and the periodic review of those controls, the CNMI risks potential loss of revenue, improper or unauthorized use of public lands, and noncompliance with laws and regulations," the report added.

DPL rebutted the claims of OPA and argued that the audit findings, despite responding

### Free shuttle to NMC info sessions

Northern Marianas College will be offering roundtrip shuttle service to its upcoming information session events set for next week.

The info sessions will be held on Tuesday, July 31, 2018 and Thursday, Aug. 2, 2018. Both sessions will be from 5:30pm to 6:30pm at NMC's Café Proa located near the Bookstore.

The shuttle service will be provided from Tanapag and Kagman on each day that the info session is held. Pick-up times from Tanapag Middle School and the Kagman Market will be at 4:30pm, and the return dropoff time from NMC back to Tanapag and Kagman

to OPA in a June 26, 2018 19-page letter, were left unchanged even when DPL was cited for issues that occurred in 1990-2017.

"In DPL's response to OPA it was requested that the audit should reference predecessors such as the Marianas Public Land Corp., Marianas Public Land Authority, [and the] Office of the Public Lands as most of the internal control errors occurred during that time," a statement from DPL stated, adding that the 19-page letter

DPL issued to OPA included over 240 pages of supporting documents as attachments.

The DPL statement further noted that the timing of the audit release, which was on July 17, 2018, was "questionable" since the audit entrance was March 2017 with a final draft on May 2018 and a publication date of July 2018.

"The accusations will continue but our 19-page response letter plus 240-page attachments of supporting documents will show the progress we have done. Most

importantly, [Public Auditor Michael Pai himself], in a letter dated July 17, 2018 stated, 'OPA acknowledges DPL's continuous efforts in the last two years and looks forward to seeing further improvements,'" said a DPL statement, citing a reported letter from the public auditor.

"This is a long process; DPL thanks OPA for commanding current DPL and acknowledging the significant progress we have accomplished. I cannot answer for audit findings from 2002-2015," said DPL Secretary Marianne Teregoy.

"Imagine correcting all the deficiencies from previous administrations and being blamed, but we have moved forward and corrected a lot of issues and OPA recognized that. I just wish they took into account our 240-page attachments and 19-page letter rebutting the audit," she added.

**QQ RENT A CAR**  
Starting as low as... **\$29.99**  
 for a 3rd Party Insurance  
Call: 233-8855, 483-8866 or 233-8866  
\$100 Security Deposit Required  
Garapan • Susupe  
Some conditions may apply

## Earn more miles. Get there faster.



### UNITED MILEAGEPLUS® CREDIT CARD

Apply by August 31, 2018, and if approved, you can receive one entry into the **sweepstakes** to win two round trip business class tickets\*.

#### PLUS:

- Earn up to 30,000 bonus miles<sup>1</sup>
- 5,000 bonus miles at account opening
- 25,000 miles with \$1,500 spent within the first 3 months
- \$0 Intro annual fee for the first year (\$60 thereafter)<sup>2</sup>

Stop by any branch or visit [fhb.com/UnitedSweepstakes](http://fhb.com/UnitedSweepstakes) to apply.

 **First Hawaiian Bank**  
IT ALL STARTS WITH YES

 **MileagePlus**  
UNITED

[fhb.com](http://fhb.com) 

**Gualo Rai Branch**, Gualo Rai Commercial Center, Middle Road • Tel: (670) 235-3090  
**Oleai Branch**, Oleai Center, Beach Road Chalan Laulau • Tel: (670) 234-6559

\*NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Void where prohibited. Sweepstakes starts on July 1, 2018, and ends on August 31, 2018. Open to legal residents of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands aged 18 years or older. Visit [www.fhb.com/UnitedSweepstakes](http://www.fhb.com/UnitedSweepstakes) for official rules and complete details.

1 Miles accrued, awards, and benefits issued are subject to change and are subject to the rules of the United MileagePlus program, including without limitation the Premier® program (the "MileagePlus Program"), which are expressly incorporated herein. Please allow 6-8 weeks after completed qualifying activity for miles to post to your account. United may change the MileagePlus Program including, but not limited to, rules, regulations, travel awards and special offers or terminate the MileagePlus Program at any time and without notice. United and its subsidiaries, affiliates and agents are not responsible for any products or services of other participating companies and partners. Taxes and fees related to award travel are the responsibility of the member. Bonus award miles, award miles and any other miles earned through non-flight activity do not count toward qualification for Premier status unless expressly stated otherwise. The accumulation of mileage or Premier status or any other status does not entitle members to any vested rights with respect to the MileagePlus Program. MileagePlus Program participation may not be permitted in some countries. All calculations made in connection with the MileagePlus Program, including without limitation with respect to the accumulation of mileage and the satisfaction of the qualification requirements for Premier status, will be made by United Airlines and MileagePlus in their discretion and such calculations will be considered final. Information in this communication that relates to the MileagePlus Program does not purport to be complete or comprehensive and may not include all of the information that a member may believe is important, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to all of the information on the united.com website and the MileagePlus Program rules. United and MileagePlus are registered service marks. For complete details about the MileagePlus Program, go to [www.united.com](http://www.united.com). 2 The Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is a variable rate of 17.74% as of 6/1/18. The intro fixed APR for balance transfers is 2.99% for the first eight billing cycles following the opening of your account for balance transfers made within 30 days of account opening. After that, the variable rate will apply. The fixed Cash Advance APR is 18.00%. The fixed Penalty APR is 18.00% and may be applied if you make a late payment. The Minimum Interest Charge will be no less than \$1.00. The Foreign Transaction Fee is 3% of the non-dollar amount of any Purchase or Cash Advance made in a foreign currency. The ATM Cash Advance Fee and the Over-the-Counter Cash Advance Fee are \$5 or 5% of the transaction amount, whichever is greater. The Balance Transfer Fee and the Convenience Check Fee are \$5 or 3% of the transaction amount, whichever is greater. \$0 introductory annual fee for the first year after account opening; thereafter, the annual fee is \$60. Additional limitations, terms and conditions apply. See the United MileagePlus Credit Card Agreement or Mastercard Guide to Benefits for more information.

WITH \$500 MIDNIGHT CASH DRAWS EVERY WEDNESDAY TO SATURDAY NIGHT EACH WEEK WITH OVER \$18,000 IN CASH AND PRIZES TO BE WON BY LUCKY CLUB 88 PLAYERS, AND SPECIAL \$2,500 3RD BIRTHDAY MIDNIGHT MEGA DRAW ON TUESDAY, 17TH OF JULY WITH BIRTHDAY CAKE FOR ALL PLAYERS!

COME PLAY TODAY FOR A CHANCE TO BE A BIG WINNER!

OPEN: SUNDAY TO THURSDAY 12:00 PM TO 4:00AM | FRIDAY AND SATURDAY 24 HOURS  
OCEAN VIEW HOTEL GARAPAN SAIPAN

# Torres SOCA moved to Aug. 16

A new date has been set for Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' State of the Commonwealth Address.

During a session yesterday afternoon, the Senate adopted Senate Joint Resolution 20-06 that sets the date of Torres' annual address on Aug. 16, 2018, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose

Center at 10am.

Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan) was absent from the session.

The Torres administration previously announced that the address would be held on July 27, 2018, and then moved it to Aug. 2, 2018.

"Some of the members had scheduling problems," said

Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) yesterday. "We have some senators that would be off-island, so we set it on Aug. 16."

Palacios noted, however, that the availability of the 20 members of the House of Representatives would still be considered. The House would have to concur with S.J.R. 20-

06 before the Aug. 16, 2018 date is finalized.

The 2017 Commonwealth

address was held at the same venue on March 31, 2017. *(Erwin Encinare)*

## NMTI seeks help from SHEFA

The Northern Marianas Trade Institute is requesting funding from the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance.

At a SHEFA meeting yesterday at the Saipan Mayor's Office, it was disclosed that NMTI sent the scholarship office a letter requesting for open enrollment for its students.

SHEFA administrator

Merissa S. Rasa said there are currently 12 SHEFA applicants enrolled at the trades school

SHEFA chair Oscar M. Babauta said that NMTI is not the same as other normal institutions.

The scholarship office, however, approved NMTI's request to waive the deadline for supporting documents,

knowing that classes will still be taken within the term dates (fall and spring semesters).

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, meantime, told SHEFA that he learned that a lot of NMTI students miss the opportunity to apply for SHEFA scholarship.

Unlike other schools on island, NMTI is a trades school. *(Fahim Uddin)*

Osborne, the Legislature, "and most importantly, the entire community."

"This is a victory for the Commonwealth," Torres said.

He did not mention Sablan, who is a political opponent.

"We can celebrate this accomplishment with the understanding that we must continue to train our people, give them the skills to thrive in our growing economy, and take greater part in contributing to even greater levels of success," Torres added.

In a separate statement, Sa-

blan noted that his focus now shifts to implementing the new law. He plans to meet with U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen today to talk about making available the 13,000 worker slots provided in H.R. 5956.

DHS oversees the operation of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, the federal agency that administers the foreign worker program, or CW-1.

"The congressional office has already had contact with USCIS about making the 8,001 additional CW permits

## NRCS seeks partners in the region

The Natural Resources Conservation Services under the U.S. Department of Agriculture is looking for partners in the Pacific Islands area.

NRCS is looking for help in conservation projects and is willing to fund those projects.

Projects will be approved from eligible individuals for research activities located in the Pacific Islands area.

NRCS expects projects to be implemented under the program to be worth \$800,000 for fiscal year 2019.

NRCS will accept appli-

cations from any entity who can demonstrate knowledge, skills, and ability in conservation planning.

Participants must submit their project proposals by Aug. 3, 2018 to [Douglas.Maguire@hi.usda.gov](mailto:Douglas.Maguire@hi.usda.gov). *(Fahim Uddin)*

## Candidates urged to learn campaign finance rules

The Commonwealth Election Commission has urged this year's political candidates or their campaign treasurers to participate in a workshop about campaign financial disclosure.

CEC administrative officer Kayla Igitol said CEC and the Office of the Public Auditor will conduct the workshop at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-

Purpose Center in Susupe on Monday, July 31, from 5:30pm to 7:30pm.

OPA staff and CEC executive director Julita Villagomez and election register clerk Robin Sablan will be the presenters at the workshop. The topics are Ethics Act, campaign finance, and Election Reform Act.

Igitol said CEC has been doing such workshop every election.

Igitol underscored the importance for the candidates or their campaign treasurers to attend the workshop because they need to file financial campaign report after the Nov. 6 general election, among other things. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

## CW

*From Page 1*

the threshold.

"This process was not easy, and we knew heading into it that there would be uncertainty along the way, but I am proud to say that we have accomplished something that will benefit all of us," he said in an early morning statement.

He gave kudos to Trump, Bishop, Sen. Lisa Murkowski, the Northern Marianas Business Alliance Corp., Jason

Nielsen, the Legislature, "and most importantly, the entire community."

"This is a victory for the Commonwealth," Torres said.

He did not mention Sablan, who is a political opponent.

"We can celebrate this accomplishment with the understanding that we must continue to train our people, give them the skills to thrive in our growing economy, and take greater part in contributing to even greater levels of success," Torres added.

In a separate statement, Sa-

blan noted that his focus now shifts to implementing the new law. He plans to meet with U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen today to talk about making available the 13,000 worker slots provided in H.R. 5956.

DHS oversees the operation of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, the federal agency that administers the foreign worker program, or CW-1.

"The congressional office has already had contact with USCIS about making the 8,001 additional CW permits

for next year available quickly," said Sablan.

"I will be seeing Secretary Nielsen [today] here at the Capitol and also having an in-depth meeting at USCIS later in the day. We will go over a range of issues that people have already asked me about. And I will be encouraging the agency to reopen the application window without delay," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune*.

Torres has stated that he has also sent his concerns to USCIS regarding the implementation of the new law. *Saipan Tribune*

has yet to get a hold of that letter.

Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan), said the passage of H.R. 5956 marks the start of "positive changes" to the NMI workforce.

"This new law also provides that we exert every effort to train our people and give them the resources to fill jobs and help us build our U.S.-eligible workforce. And that's a commitment we make to everyone in the Commonwealth," he said.

*Saipan Tribune* attempted to reach out to USCIS about the

timeline for the implementation of the new law but USCIS has yet to respond as of press time.

In a statement, U.S. Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke praised Trump for enacting the bill. "This law allows for the appropriate extensions and adjustments to enforce the law effectively and appropriately without stifling needed economic growth in the territory. The Department of the Interior remains committed to working with our fellow Americans and leadership in the CNMI," he said.

CNMI's tourism industry that would greatly feel the effects of the numerical limit imposed by USCIS.

## Support in business

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands and the Saipan Chamber of Commerce also welcomed the news.

HANMI chair Gloria Cavanagh and Chamber president Velma Palacios said the NMI Workforce Act is a collaboration by various sectors in the Commonwealth and shows what can be achieved when working together with one goal.

They both thanked U.S. House Natural Resources Committee Rep. Rob Bishop (R-UT) and U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee chair Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) for being the CNMI's voice in Washington, D.C., the administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and his team, Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan, the Northern Marianas Business Alliance Corp. and their consultant, and Duty Free Shop for the use of their own consultants.

Cavanagh said that, although hotels employ less than 1,000 CW1 workers, it is the support services in the

[Gregorio] Kilili [Sablan], and all the affected stakeholders which through their concerted and untiring effort made the NMI Workforce Act a reality," said Santos.

"With [NMI Workforce Act] becoming a law, CHCC can now proceed with the processing of our CW-1

nurses' applications, hoping that these applications are approved soonest."

She added that the new law would secure continuous healthcare at the CNMI's lone hospital. "Nurses play a crucial role in healthcare...so to ensure continuity in the delivery of quality healthcare...our CHCC, including our health centers on Rota and Tinian, must be equipped with the necessary nursing manpower."

CHCC public information officer Sami Birmingham-Babauta echoed Santos' statements. "The signing of the CW bill into law by President Trump is tremendous news for CHCC. We are able to retain our dutiful employees and provide uninterrupted healthcare services to the community."

She added that they would still continue to transition all of their healthcare CW workers. "CHCC continues to tran-

sition healthcare professionals to other employment-based visas (EB-2 and EB-3)."

"[It's a] relief. Although our hoteliers have less than 1,000 CW1 workers, the companies providing auxiliary services to support our tourism market are threatened closure due to labor shortage," she said.

"With this passage, we will be able to maintain critical services and tourism services. Without it, we would have suffered a decline in our economy. We are very happy and thankful for all those that helped us."

Palacios said the law is another opportunity for CNMI businesses improve its labor pool. "This is great news for the entire CNMI and the business community. We are given another opportunity to build our workforce capacity by training our local residents and employing those persons able and willing to work."

"The Chamber continues to encourage its members and all businesses to take this opportunity. We now wait for how this law will be implemented. We hope regulations are issued quickly to ensure business operations are not disrupted." *(with Fahim Uddin)*

## RELIEF

*From Page 1*

that H.R. 5956 is an important legislation that would help the CNMI's economy.

Batallones told *Saipan Tribune* the law would allow him to keep his employees who have been with him since he opened his auto shop in 1994. "At the same time, I can bring in more qualified workers. It's hard to find auto mechanics nowadays. Most of them seek better opportunities or go to other auto shops that offer higher salaries."

He has 10 CW1 workers in his auto shop and four in his two-year-old construction firm. "I'm trying to hire more workers and I have to screen these applicants. Our construction firm has been busy with various small projects and renovations."

Mendoza said the only thing that employers like him will have to wait now is how the law would be applied by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and information on what the changes are.

"It's welcome news that gives us another 10 years to transition our workers to other U.S.-applicable work visas.

Hopefully the implementation of the law would be smooth and without any problems," Mendoza said in a telephone interview.

This was echoed by Michelle Daniel, owner of Grand Laundry in Gualo Rai. "This is good news for foreign workers but we all know that there's many changes in this law and we shall see and wait how these changes will enforced," she said.

Mendoza had expected to temporarily close Tropex Garden, which opened in 1990, after none of their workers' CW1 applications got included in USCIS' lottery system for fiscal year 2019.

"Not one of our petitions was picked in the lottery. I was expecting that I would be closing my business since all our renewals were denied. It's a good thing that this happened and now we can re-submit our applications," said Mendoza.

He said that they employ 10 foreign workers at Tropex Garden while four are at Traders Insurance, which has been operating for 21 years now.

Guest worker Mauro Barcoma believes the law is important for both employee and employer. "I will no longer be required to apply for a new

visa in order for me to continue working here in the CNMI. This also means that I won't stop working and can continue to provide for my family."

He also pointed out that "a lot of guest workers here have been on the island for most of their lives; they have already adjusted to life here."

"[H.R. 5956] is also important to the employers since some of their workers are under the CW-1 program," added Barcoma, who works as a card dealer at the Imperial Pacific Resort.

If H.R. 5956 hadn't become law, Barcoma would have been sent back off island, along with almost 70 percent of his fellow guest workers at the island's lone casino.

### Uninterrupted healthcare

Senate Health and Welfare Committee chair Sen. Teresita A. Santos (R-Rota) said the new law would give the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. the chance to reapply the hospital's 111 nurses that were not included in the USCIS lottery. "That is great news for our CNMI. Thus, I would like to extend a profound and sincere gratitude to President [Trump], U.S. Congress, Gov. [Ralph] Torres, [CNMI] Delegate

## 4 NMII thespians get callbacks

By JON PEREZ  
jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Four members of the Junior and Senior Troupes of the International Thespian Society CNMI who attended the 2018 International Thespian Festival in Lincoln, Nebraska last month were deluged with callbacks after a stellar showing at the festival.

The four are Su Min Woo of Grace Christian Academy, and Marianas High School students Ruoxiang Lu, Clar-

isse Torio, and Kelvin Wolf. The four were part of the CNMI team that performed in three competitive days that gathered young thespians in the United States and other parts of the world.

Woo, who earned a Superior medal and two excellent ratings, had 20 callbacks, while Lu had 21 in technical theatre after receiving one Superior medal and two excellent ratings through scenic design. Torio had 11 and Wolf 13.

Torrio, Wolf, and Woo

earned their callbacks as performers with the former part of MHS' Rhythm 'N Harmony that went home with two Superior medals, two perfect scores, and one excellent rating.

Wolf performed with Chloe Salvosa in duet acting where the duo received a Superior medal and two excellent ratings while Woo had a Superior medal and two excellent ratings in Monologue.

Western Pacific Region-National Forensic League president Harold Easton said the event also gave the students a chance to avail of academic

opportunities.

"One of the goals of any trip is to take advantage of educational and social opportunities. The members of the team attended daily workshops to hone their theatrical and pre-

sentation skills," said Easton. "They attended performances in various university theatres, most notably the 2,500-seat theatre, and met and socialized with students from around the nation and around the world."

He added that Team CNMI also had the chance to experience university life. "Since festival attendees are housed and fed in the university dorms and all the events are held in university facilities."

ance Operations.

In his new position, Boswell will be responsible for the profitability and customer retention of the AK Saipan business.

Boswell has a degree in International Trade and Finance from Louisiana State University, and brings with him five years of management experience in finance, insurance, corporate and parts sales operations. (PR)

## HOME program more than visits

By JON PEREZ  
jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Stay-at-home mom Daisy Reyes takes care of her children while her husband Franklin works, both knowing that being parents is a 24-hour job with no holidays. That was especially true for Daisy, who has to juggle taking care of their six children, one of whom has a disability, with household chores. That's why getting into the CNMI Healthy Outcomes for Maternal and Early Childhood Visiting Program have been a big help.

The Reyes' fifth child were among the first 14 children that completed the program, which helps high-risk families take care of children ranging in age from 0 months to 3 years. The graduation was held last Friday at Pacific Island Club Saipan's Charley's Cabaret.

The Maternal and Child Health Bureau—under the Division of Public Health Services of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.—administers the program that is funded through the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration.

Daisy Reyes said the program helped her not only with referrals to various agencies that provide assistance to families like them but also the guidance and time spent by caseworkers through their advice.

"Sometimes, you only just want to talk to somebody. I'm reluctant to talk to somebody, for I might hear 'why do you have many kids?' That's why I can talk to the caseworkers, just to let out the stress. It relieves you of the burden."

"The program was a big help for my family. Our children got the referrals they needed with their medicines and healthcare, especially our child with special needs, while our youngest is also in the Early Head Start program."

Aside from advice and assistance, caseworkers also teach various activities for parents and children. "They bring stuff for the kids to enjoy while we talk. Plus, they teach us family activities."

"I learned a lot from the program, like how to manage time with my kids. I don't know some of these activities

and I'm thankful to learn them for our kids, through the guidance of my caseworkers."

Reyes also thanked sponsors of the program in providing them with some house essentials, given to them by the caseworkers every time they make their frequent home visits.

### Model families

DPHS director Margarita Torres-Aldan said the families of the 14 program graduates now have the honor of being role models to other CNMI families. "All of you now have the honor of being role models to families who have yet to enroll or are new to the program."

"All of you have the honor to be proud of the successes that you as families achieved throughout the past three to four years. The successes ensured the wellness of your children through nutrition."

Torres-Aldan added that the program also assures that the kids are up-to-date with their immunization, get preventive healthcare, achieve their family- and child-related goals, and maintain a healthy relationship with their kids.

The HOME Visiting Program also helps families to make sure that the children are healthy and are receiving care through Medicaid, and their benefits from the Nutrition Assistance Program.

HOME also helps parents learn various parenting skills through an approved curriculum modeled from the Healthy Families of America, where the caseworkers are trained and licensed to teach.

### Process

HOME Visiting Program coordinator Yuline Fitial said the program is open to high-risk families, kids from 0 months to 3 years, "mothers who are over-burdened or with high levels of stress, victims of domestic violence, late pre-natal care, or a history of substance abuse issues."

"Families must go through a two-step process with assessment and screening to see if they are eligible. But they must enroll before the child turns 3 months."

Families have the option to keep their kids in the program.

## Boswell is AK Saipan VP, GM

Clark Boswell, commercial director at Atkins Kroll, was appointed vice president and general manager of Atkins Kroll, Inc. Saipan last July 24.

Boswell first joined the company in 2014 as corporate sales manager, and was later



Boswell

appointed parts operation manager in 2015. He rejoined the company in 2017, accepting the position as commercial director where he managed Guam & Saipan Toyota Rent a Car, Corporate Fleet Sales and Finance and Insur-

**Explorer Bundle**

Enjoy internet download speeds of 15 Mbps\* and reliable home phone on a 2-service Explorer Bundle for just \$80 a month. Plus, get a FREE Roku Stick to stream all your favorite shows.

And don't forget: sign up for Explorer Rewards for free and get United MileagePlus miles for every dollar of your monthly payments.

**EXPLORE YOUR WORLD**

IT&E

store.ite.net | ite\_cnmi | ite.cnmi

Terms and conditions apply. Subject to credit check.



## AGENDA

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission"), hereby give notice that the Commission has scheduled its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, July 31, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library (Technology Room) in Susupe, Saipan.

The following Agenda will be discussed:

### I. PRELIMINARIES:

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Adoption of Agenda
- D. Adoption of Minutes: June 28, 2018

### II. REPORTS:

- A. Report by the Chairman
- B. Report by the Executive Director

### III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

### IV. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS:

- A. Casino Licensee (IPI) Updates:
  - 1. Construction Progress – Imperial Pacific Resort & Hotel (Imperial Palace)
  - 2. IPI Personnel: a) Resident Employment Objectives & CLA Annual Plan
  - 3. Responsible Gaming Program
  - 4. Compliance Committee
  - 5. Other Miscellaneous Matters
- B. Other Matters

### V. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. House Bill 20-82, HD1: Update
- B. CCC Regulations Scheduled for Permanent Adoption:
  - 1. §175-10.1-1955 (new section entitled "Additional Reporting Obligations of Casino Key Employees, Casino Employees and Others"). This section requires casino key employees, casino employees, and the directors, officers, and shareholders of the casino licensee or any affiliate company to report certain enumerated business transactions between them and their close family members and the casino to the Commission within seven days. This section was published in the Commonwealth Register for public comment in Volume 40, Number 03 on or about March 28, 2018.
  - 2. §175-10.1-1955 2965 (new section entitled "Third Party Exclusion Procedures." This section establishes a means by which certain third parties may require the casino licensee to determine whether a person should be excluded from the casino. This section was published in the Commonwealth Register for public comment in Volume 40, Number 03 on or about March 28, 2018.

### VI. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Consideration and Final Action on Request to Extend Suspension of the Minimum Bankroll Requirements
  - IPI Chief Financial Officer (Ed Chen) - July 20, 2018 Request.
  - Extend suspension deadline from August 31, 2018 to December 31, 2019.
- B. Proposed Changes and Amendments to the CCC Regulations for publication in the Commonwealth Register for public comment:
  - 1. Proposed Amendment to 175-10.1-1305 to amend subsection (b) to change the Service Provider and Vendor licensee triggering period from prior fiscal or calendar year to "trailing twelve months".
  - 2. Proposed Amendment to 175-10.1-1390 to amend subsections (a) and (b) to conform to the above change to 175-10.1-1305 made in VI.B.1.
  - 3. Proposed Amendment to 175-10.1-1385 to delete subsection (e) regarding the Executive Director's authority to issue provisional service provider licenses.
- C. Approval for Regular Casino Service Provider License (2-years) - Gaming:
  - \* Actimize Ltd. (dba: Nice Actimize). Software and Technology Platform for detecting and preventing at-risk financial transactions. Provisional License Expiration ("PLE") Date: 08/03/18.
- D. Approval for Regular Casino Vendor License (2-years) – Non-Gaming:
  - 1. Global Hotelware Ltd. Glassware, Barware, & Service Accessories. PLE Date: 08/01/18.
  - 2. Inhesion (Asia), Ltd. Tableware, Porcelain, Glassware & Cutlery. PLE Date: 07/15/18.
  - 3. Saipan Stevedore Co., Inc. Stevedoring Services, Equipment & Apt Rentals: PLE Date: 8/1/2018
  - 4. Winzy Corporation (dba: RAD Gen Construction). Fire Alarm Services: PLE Date: 7/24/2018

- E. Notification of Provisional Casino Vendor License (1-Year):
  - 1. Fujian Xishi Co., Ltd. Supplier of Stone Materials & Related Products. Issued: 7/20/18; Exp. 7/19/19
  - 2. Hong Kong Security Centre, Ltd. Supplier of Iron for Doors. Issued: 7/17/18; Exp. 7/16/19
  - 3. K.L. Carr Enterprises, Inc. Fire Sprinkler Systems – Supplier & Tester. Issued 6/25/18; Exp. 6/24/19
  - 4. Xiangxing Corporation. Construction and Renovation Work. Issued 6/25/18; Exp. 6/24/19

- F. Consideration, Adoption and Issuance of CCC Order 2018-003: Order requiring the casino licensee to provide publicly accessible information as required by public law. This order will supersede Commission Order 2017-004.

- G. Consideration and Discussion of And Action on IPI Notice of Intent: Vice President Chuck McDonald's letter, dated July 23, 2018, notifying CCC of IPI's intent to request the Lottery Commission for extension of the completion date for the Initial Gaming Facility and its impact on the Casino Regulations.

- VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:
  - A. IPI Financial Matters
  - B. Report by the CCC Audit Division
  - C. Report by the Legal Counsel

### VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Commission reserves the right to amend this agenda and take action on the amended agenda pursuant to 1 CMC §9910(b). Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Commission may vote to meet in Executive Session. In addition, the Commission may extend its official meeting for another day or more, if necessary.

/s/ Juan M. Sablan  
Chairman

# Star Marianas: Many factors affect Rota airfare increase

By ERWIN ENCINARES  
erwin\_encinaires@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A Tinian-based airline cited several factors that prompted it to increase its airfare to Rota, but declined to specify them, saying it's "complicated and difficult" to explain through email.

Responding to *Saipan Tribune* inquiries yesterday, Star Marianas Air president Shaun Christian said many factors contributed to the increase in airfare for Rota services but did not further expound on the matter. He did state that Star Marianas has been reaching out to the local government to

discuss "issues" in detail.

The airline company is the only one currently flying to Rota ever since United Airlines severed ties with Cape Air Express, which used to service the route.

Several members of the Rota Legislative Delegation stated their concern over the rising cost of airfare to Rota after the airline implemented prices serving the Rota-Guam and Rota-Saipan routes to \$260 and \$250, respectively, round trip. Previous prices for the Rota-Saipan route were at \$230 round trip, with a discounted price of \$210 if

booked online.

Sen. Teresita Santos (R-Rota) described the increases as "abrupt and astronomical" since it imposed a "financial burden" on the travelling public from Rota, while Sen. Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) and Rota delegation chair Sen. Steve Mesngon (R-Rota) remain mum on the increase.

Manglona did tell *Saipan Tribune* in a previous interview that he would be meeting with the Commonwealth Ports Authority and Star Marianas on issues pertaining to transportation; flight frequency and reliability; and other matters between the two.

According to a statement from the administration of Ralph DLG Torres, it continues to talk with CPA and other stakeholders to further address air transportation issues.

"Since the pullout of flights from Rota, we remain steadfast in our commitment to seeking reliable transportation services for the island of Rota and the rest of the Marianas. Market pressures always remain an issue, but we continue to be pragmatic in our approach and optimistic in our goal of ensuring that Rota residents will be taken care of," press secretary Kevin Bautista told *Saipan Tribune*.

## Bank of Hawaii offers grants for small biz

The Bank of Hawaii is offering five grants in the amount of \$5,000 each to deserving small business owners. If you are interested, visit the bank to pick up an application.

"At Bank of Hawaii, we are committed to seeing our communities grow and thrive by encouraging economic development. We understand that economic development isn't as always easy, so we are investing in grants to help stimulate small business development in Saipan," the bank said in a statement.

This grant program is being offered to small business owners to promote new businesses and to encourage existing small business to expand.

If you have a small business on Saipan, complete the grant application or contact the bank at (670) 237-2983 for more information. Grants up to \$5,000 are awarded on the basis of impact to the business and economic benefit to the commu-

nity. Submitting an application is not a guarantee of funding.

The deadline for grant applications is Friday, Aug. 10, 2018.

To be eligible, applicants should have a demonstrated track record in operating a business or management experience. Past grant awardees are not eligible for this year's program as we are seeking new requests from businesses we have not yet assisted.

If not already completed, grant awardees are required to complete one of the following on or before Friday, Aug. 10, 2018: CNMI Small Business Development Center small business training program; or Bank of Hawaii Smart Money small business financial education training.

A copy of the applicant's business license and recent tax clearance (less than six months old) issued by the local government must accompany the grant application. (PR)



## NOTICE OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS (Finance, Airport, Seaport and Personnel)

Friday, July 27, 2018, 9:30 a.m.  
Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Classroom,  
Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan

### AGENDAS

#### Financial Affairs Committee

- I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes
- II. Public Comments
- III. Items:
  - 1. Merchant Services Proposal Update
  - 2. Air Carrier Incentive Program
  - 3. Committee Report
  - 4. Financial Reports
- IV. Executive Session
- V. Miscellaneous
- VI. Adjournment

#### Airport Facilities Committee

- I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes
- II. Public Comments
- III. Items:
  - 1. Grazing Applications - Rota
  - 2. Tandem Skydive
  - 3. Saipan International Airport Car Rental Concession
  - 4. Divert
  - 5. Committee Report
- IV. Executive Session: Legal briefing on Tinian Airport/Divert
- V. Miscellaneous
- VI. Adjournment

#### Seaport Facilities Committee

- I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes
- II. Public Comments
- III. Items:
  - 1. Saipan Globe/Wharfage Rates Analysis
  - 2. Ginen Saipan
  - 3. Fenders for Port of Saipan
  - 4. Phoenix Services
  - 5. Committee Report
- IV. Executive Session
- V. Miscellaneous
- VI. Adjournment

#### Personnel Affairs Committee

- I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes
- II. Public Comments
- III. Items:
  - 1. Personnel Rules and Regulations
  - 2. Committee Report
- IV. Executive Session
- V. Miscellaneous
- VI. Adjournment

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. A time limit will be imposed for oral testimony.

## COMMONWEALTH LAW REVISION COMMISSION NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS JUDICIARY

House of Justice • Guma Hustisia • Iimwal Aweewe  
P.O. Box 502179, Saipan, MP 96950-2179 <https://www.cnmlaw.org>  
Tel: (670) 236-9897 Fax: (670) 236-9897 [cnmlaw@justice.gov.mp](mailto:cnmlaw@justice.gov.mp)

# PUBLIC NOTICE

### REGULAR MEETING

Monday, July 30, 2018, 10:00 a.m.  
Latte Stone, Kanoa Resort, Susupe, Saipan

### Agenda

1. Preliminary Matters
  - a. Call to Order and Roll Call
  - b. Meeting Notice (Compliance with Open Government Act, 1 CMC § 9901 et seq.)
  - c. Final Approval of August 30, 2017 Meeting Minutes
2. Executive Director's Report
  - a. Office & Staff Update
  - b. Publications – Print & Website: Status, Issues, & Plans
    - i. NMI Reporter
    - ii. CMC
    - iii. NMIAIC
    - iv. Driver's Handbook
    - v. Miscellaneous Projects
  - c. FY 2017 and FY 2018 Budget & Expenditures
  - d. Sales and Other Reports
3. Old Business
4. New Business
5. Tentative Date for Next Meeting
6. Other Matters and Adjournment
7. Farewell Luncheon for Executive Director Sheila N. Trianni

The regular meeting of the Commission will be held at an alternate location due to the closure of Guma' Hustisia.



# URGENT SAFETY RECALL REPAIR

## TAKATA AIRBAG INFLATOR DEFECT

Defects in the over-pressurization of the Takata inflator, can cause the inflator to rupture and eject metal fragments when the airbag deploys. This could injure or cause the death of the vehicle's occupants.



Toyota is conducting a safety recall to address identified defects in the driver and/or passenger front airbag inflators that affect certain vehicles in the following models.

MAKE	MODEL	CAMPAIGN
TOYOTA	2003-2013 COROLLA	PASSENGER SIDE AIRBAG
TOYOTA	2003-2012 MATRIX	PASSENGER SIDE AIRBAG
TOYOTA	2003-2006 TUNDRA	PASSENGER SIDE AIRBAG
TOYOTA	2004-2005 RAV 4	DRIVER SIDE AIRBAG

MAKE	MODEL	CAMPAIGN
TOYOTA	2003-2006 SEQUOIA	PASSENGER SIDE AIRBAG
TOYOTA	2007-2012 YARIS	PASSENGER SIDE AIRBAG
TOYOTA	2009-2013 4RUNNER	PASSENGER SIDE AIRBAG
TOYOTA	2009-2013 SIENNA	PASSENGER SIDE AIRBAG

ONLY a Certified Toyota/Lexus Technician is able to perform the required work, so as a precaution, we request that you bring your vehicle in for our service team to remedy this condition.

There is no cost to you for this work as Toyota is committed to the safety of its customers and wants to make sure your vehicle is as safe as possible for you and your passengers.

To find out if your vehicle is affected by this recall, log on [www.toyota.com/recall](http://www.toyota.com/recall).

We're open on Monday through Saturday 8 am to 5 pm.

Free 39-point VHC (visual health check) during your visit. Refreshments such as doughnuts and coffee will be provided. To book your appointment, please call 234-5911, or visit our website at [AKsaipan.com](http://AKsaipan.com).

We appreciate your understanding for this safety recall and apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

**Oil & Filter Change Special**

**\$39.95\*** 5W-30 Oil  
FREE Waste Oil Desposal

for vehicles who complete Takata Airbag Recall Service



Atkins Kroll (Saipan), Inc.  
#1 Chalan Msr Guerrero San Jose  
Saipan, MP 96950

**Call 234-5911**

Showroom Hours: Monday to Saturday 8am to 5 pm

Browse our online showroom - Visit: [www.AKsaipan.com](http://www.AKsaipan.com)



**Let's  
Go  
Places**

# Rep. Aldan files candidacy for Tinian mayor

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Rep. Edwin Palacios Aldan (Rep.-Saipan) filed yesterday morning his candidacy for Tinian mayor, while six other Tinian Republicans also submitted their petitions for nomination for Senate, House of Representatives, and Municipal Council positions.

Senate President Arnold Palacios (R-Saipan) and several other Republican candidates, family members, supporters, and friends showed up at the Commonwealth Election Commission in Susupe to show their support of the Tinian Republican candidates.

Sens. Jude U. Hofsneider (R-Saipan) and Francisco Q. Cruz (R-Saipan) filed candidacies for their re-election.



FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Seven Tinian Republicans led by Sens. Jude U. Hofsneider and Francisco Q. Cruz and Rep. Edwin P. Aldan pose with their family members and supporters after filing their candidacies at the Commonwealth Election Commission in Susupe yesterday morning. Hofsneider and Cruz are seeking re-election for the Senate, while Aldan is running for Tinian mayor.

Tinian Municipal Council member Antonio SN. Borja filed his candidacy for the House. For the Tinian Municipal Council, Esteven SN. King

Jr., Patrick A. Manglona, and Thomasa Palacios Mendiola filed their candidacies.

Aldan said he is seeking the mayoral seat because he believes he can deliver more. He pointed out that, in the first two years, Tinian lawmakers freed the municipality from debt. "We accomplished that," Aldan said.

He said they zeroed in on public safety and public health. Aldan said they were able to send cadets for fire and police training. "We are trying our best to make sure that our people are safe," he said.

Aldan said the other part

that he wants to work on with Tinian leaders is to raise people's standard of living. Aldan said he has always supported

making housing affordable.

"On Tinian, we have a lot of homesteads that are issued out and some of them

are about to be issued out," he said, adding that the young generation needs such affordable housing.

Aldan said they are going to sit down with agencies that are involved in that kind of financing, be it in private or be it public, to set reasonable housing rates.

He said he also wants to continue to engage in stimulating the economy of the island.

Aldan said Tinian leaders want the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino revived. He also cited ongoing casino projects that are still going through permitting.

"Some are already doing the infrastructure," he said, adding that they support these kind of investments as they support and encourage other investors.

Hofsneider said he is seeking his fourth election to the Senate as it's always been his passion to serve the public and in this case, the Senate.

Hofsneider, as then-Senate president, automatically became a lieutenant governor in February 2013 when Eloy Inos assumed the governorship.

Hofsneider noted that, over the last four and a half years, they saw a transformation of positive things after a period of time when leaders were busy trying to figure out what's the best to drive the course of the direction of the CNMI. He said over the last three years, they see things are progressing.

"All the numbers are indicative of that. From the GDP reports to some of the deficits being retired over the last couple of years," Hofsneider said.

The senator said he is a firm believer that this is the right set of leaders to take the CNMI to the next level.

## Tina Sablan files Precinct 2 candidacy

Susupe resident Christina "Tina" Sablan filed her candidacy yesterday for a Precinct 2 seat in the CNMI House of Representatives.

In a statement after filing her candidacy, Sablan said: "Since beginning this journey to the Legislature, I have been meeting people every day—in their homes, in stores, in church, at the beach, at the laundromat. I have been taking this time to really listen to them—to their concerns, their ideas, their hopes. And I've noticed some common themes.

"People want a government that works for them. A government that pays its bills and honors its obligations. A government that prioritizes investments in the things that improve the quality of life for all. Like our healthcare system. Like public infrastructure. Like our public schools, our community college, our trade school. Like the safety and cleanliness of our villages.

"People want an economy that works for them. An economy that makes life better for all and not just a few. An economy that is sustainable—driven by the vision of this community, the people who live here. And develop-



for a safer, healthier, and more beautiful Marianas that we can be proud of.

"I am grateful to all who have been with me from the very beginning of this journey—my family, friends, mentors, and fellow independent and Democratic candidates—and to all who have contributed so generously to this campaign. Thank you for your time, your donations, your prayers, advice, and encouragement.

"I look forward to meeting with many more people in the coming months. Anyone with questions or ideas to share can reach me at 285-3935 or [tinasablan@gmail.com](mailto:tinasablan@gmail.com)."

Sablan is running as an independent candidate for a Precinct 2 seat. Precinct 2 includes Susupe, Chalan Kanoa, Fina Sisu, As Lito, and As Perdido.

Sablan is currently the deputy communications director and outreach coordinator for Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP). She has previously worked as a news reporter and anchor for KSPN2, and as a member of the 16th Northern Marianas House of Representatives. (PR)

### COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS

P.O. Box 500830, Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel. (670) 234-3751/52/53  
Facebook Address: [facebook.com/DPLCNMI](https://www.facebook.com/DPLCNMI) • Website: [www.dpl.gov.mp](http://www.dpl.gov.mp)



#### RFP18 – RED003

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2018 – 4:30PM

#### "LEASE AND DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC PROPERTIES IN LOT NOS. 117 D 11 & 117 D 13, PUERTO RICO, SAIPAN"

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Lands (DPL), are soliciting sealed proposals from interested and qualified companies or individuals for the purpose of leasing and commercial development of the following public land:

- Lot Nos. 117 D 11 & 117 D 13 containing a combined area of approximately 6,292 square meters, more or less, in Puerto Rico, Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, as is.

The RFP instruction and information package (RFP Packet) is available at the Department of Public Lands office, located on the 2nd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan, during the hours of 7:30am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday, except holidays. If hardcopy is preferred, a .50 cents charge per page will be assessed, however, full package of RFP is available to download at [www.dpl.gov.mp](http://www.dpl.gov.mp) or can be emailed to anyone interested at no cost.

Interested proposers from overseas may request an RFP Packet by email. The request must reference "RFP18-RED003 - LEASE & DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS IN LOT NOS. 117 D 11 & 117 D 13, PUERTO RICO, SAIPAN". Requests should be sent to the address shown below.

Questions from proposing firms regarding the contents of the RFP packet must be received, **no later than 4:30pm on Monday, August 06, 2018 ChST** and must be submitted in writing via mail, email or facsimile to Ms. Marianne Concepcion-Teregelyo, Secretary, Department of Public Lands at the following address:



Department of Public Lands  
P.O. Box 500380, Saipan, MP 96950  
Telephone number(s): (670) 234-3751/52/53  
Facsimile number: (670) 234-3755 • Email: [mariannet@dpl.gov.mp](mailto:mariannet@dpl.gov.mp)

Response to questions will be summarized and shared with all proposers in a "Question and Answer" format.

The DPL reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfection in any proposal, if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interest of public land beneficiaries. All proposals shall become the sole property of the DPL.

/s/ Marianne Concepcion-Teregelyo, Secretary  
Department of Public Lands

 **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**
**SSHS students, parents' orientation**

San Juan High School will have its school year 2018-2019 orientation for students and parents on Aug. 7. For 9th graders and new students, it will be at 9am; all returning students will be at 1:30pm. (PR)

**SVES students, parents' orientation**

San Vicente Elementary School will have its students and parent orientation on Aug. 3, 2018, at the cafeteria. Students with last names from A to M will have their orientation at 9am; student whose last names are from N to Z will have their orientation at 1:30pm. All new and ongoing SVS students and parents must attend to obtain important information regarding the

new school year. (PR)

**SVES sets open house**

San Vicente Elementary School will have an open house on Friday, Aug. 17, 2018, from 5pm to 6pm, in your child's classroom. All new and ongoing SVS students and parents should attend to meet with your child's teacher and learn about the expectations set for the school year for both student and parent.

We are still accepting registrations for new and ongoing students. If parents have not registered their child yet, we encourage parents to do so as soon as possible to ensure they are placed on the roster on the first day of school, which is Aug. 15.

For more information, contact the main office at 664-3981 or visit our Facebook Page @SvsCanaries. (PR)

**NMC info sessions next week**

Individuals interested in furthering their education or expanding their income potential are encouraged to attend one of two Northern Marianas College information sessions next week. The first session will be on Tuesday, July 31, 2018, and the second session will be held on Thursday, Aug. 2, 2018. The sessions will cover topics that include degree programs, financial aid options, the Prior Learning Assessment program, admissions, and other topics. Both info sessions will be held from 5:30pm to 6:30pm at NMC's Cafe Proa, located at the college's As Terlaje campus. Cafe Proa is located near the NMC Bookstore. Roundtrip shuttle service will be provided from Tanapag and Kagman on each day that the

info session is held. Pick up times from Tanapag Middle School and the Kagman Market will be at 4:30pm, and the return dropoff time from NMC back to Tanapag and Kagman will be at 7pm. For more information about registering for classes for the upcoming fall 2018 semester or to apply for admission, contact the NMC Office of Admissions and Records at 237-6768/6769/6771 or visit www.marianas.edu. (PR)

**SHRM sets July meeting today**

The Society for Human Resource Management NMI Chapter will have a general membership meeting today, July 26, 2018, at the Pacific Islands Club Charley's Charley's Cabaret, from 11:30am to 1:30pm. The meeting will feature as-

sistant attorney general Bobbi Cepeda, who will discuss employer obligations under the newly-enacted CNMI Public Law 20-60 "State Directory of New Hires." The presentation includes the PIC lunch buffet at the cost of \$20 for SHRM members and \$30 for non-members. Seats are limited, so reserve your seat by contacting Penny Jones by e-mail at penelope.jones@hyatt.com or Denise Montenegro at denise.montenegro@hyatt.com or by telephone at 323-5867/68. (PR)

**SSHS registration deadline**

The last day to turn in registration for all students at Saipan Southern High School will be on July 31, 2018, Tuesday. All students must turn in their registrations by this date. Required documents must be

copied before turning in. If there is any other information or question, call the main office at 664-4000. Office hours are Monday-Friday from 7:30am to 4:30pm. (PR)

**Chamber meeting on Aug. 1**

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will have its general membership meeting in August on Aug. 1 at Charley's of the Pacific Islands Club at noon. The guest speakers will be Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente, who will share updates from her agency regarding the workforce, employment numbers, and new projects; and Kanae Quinn and Wendi Herring, directors on the Make A Wish Foundation board, to speak about the good deeds of this organization in granting wishes for children in need. (PR)


**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works**

2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950


**INVITATION FOR BIDS  
DPW18-IFB-018**
**MAGURO DRIVE ROAD  
AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for Maguro Drive Road and Drainage Improvement Project, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **July 19, 2018** at Technical Services Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **August 7, 2018**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **August 15, 2018** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked "DPW18-IFB-018". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time August 20, 2018**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, August 20, 2018**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to [procurement@cnmidof.net](mailto:procurement@cnmidof.net). For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **August 20, 2018** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **August 29, 2018**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, August 31, 2018**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on August 20, 2018**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the

face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **\$70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- 1) Cash
- 2) US Gov't Securities
- 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Twenty (120) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred (US\$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

JAMES A. ADA  
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAM  
Director of Procurement & Supply


**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works**

2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950


**INVITATION FOR BIDS  
DPW18-IFB-019**
**CONSTRUCTION OF NEW PARKING AREA FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, CAPITOL HILL**

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Construction of New Parking Area for the Department of Commerce, Capitol Hill**, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **July 12, 2018** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **July 27, 2018**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **August 3, 2018** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked "DPW18-IFB-019". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time August 13, 2018**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, August 13, 2018**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to [procurement@cnmidof.net](mailto:procurement@cnmidof.net). For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **August 13, 2018** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **August 20, 2018**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, August 22, 2018**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on August 13, 2018**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the

face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **\$70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- 1) Cash
- 2) US Gov't Securities
- 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **Forty Five (45) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred (US\$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

# Opinion

## Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVIII, Issue No. 147

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,  
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

**Jayvee L. Vallejera** EDITOR  
jayvee\_vallejera@saipantribune.com

**Mark Rabago** ASSOCIATE EDITOR  
mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

## EDITORIAL

### In hate-crime conviction, a Texas jury sent a message that can make us proud

In late January last year, Marq Vincent Perez set fire to the only mosque in the South Texas town of Victoria and, according to testimony heard at his trial, jumped up and down “like a little kid” as it burned.

A jury of his peers convicted him on a federal hate-crime charge that alone could alone put him in prison for up to 20 years after he is sentenced later this year. The other charges, including using fire as a weapon, could add to the term.

The grim tally of potential time behind bars ought to make Texans proud.

Why? Because, for starters, the U.S. Department of Justice did the right thing by adding the hate-crime charge to the initial arson-related charges. Prosecutors told jurors that Perez had planned to create a “rogue unit” to confront members of the mosque, according to The Associated Press.

Under Attorney General Jeff Sessions, the department’s commitment to civil rights and protection of minorities has been questioned. The decision to bring hate crime charges in this case prove that those complaints do not paint a full portrait.

“The Department of Justice is committed to protecting the religious liberty of all people and their ability to practice their faith without being the target of this kind of dangerous activity,” said U.S. attorney Ryan Patrick in a statement following the jury’s verdict.

Texans can be proud, too, of the jury verdict out of Victoria County. While those bent on violence can draw headlines, the truth is that there is a bedrock decency that might often fly under the radar but is held by the vast majority of Texans. Burning a house of worship isn’t tolerated. Nor is there much tolerance of the kind of crime that aims to make others—in this case, about 40 Muslim families who attended the mosque—feel unwelcome in our society.

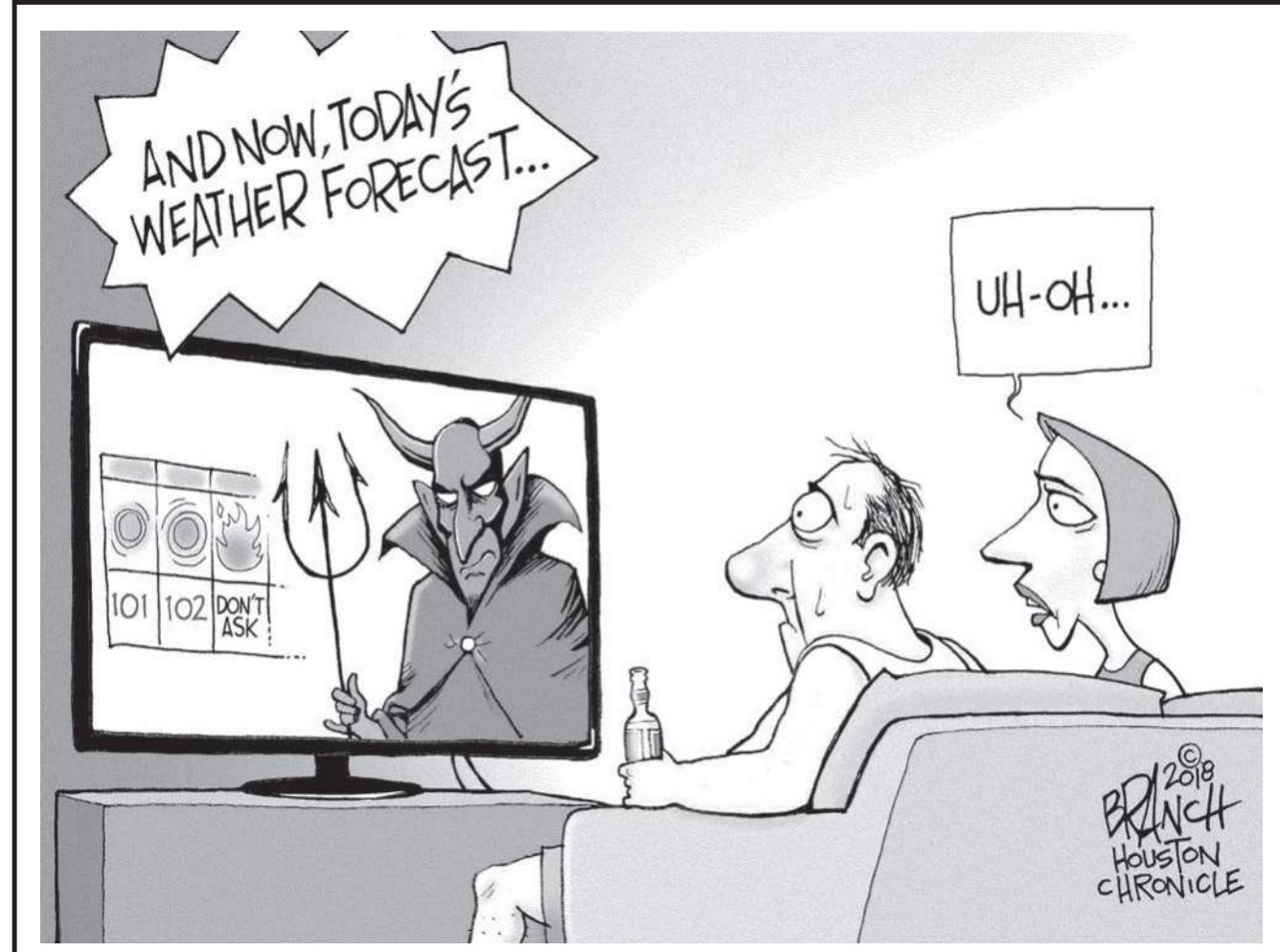
That kind of crime is contrary to Texas’ best traditions, where we seek to judge people by their character, not by where they are from or whom they pray to.

These are important reminders because hate crimes in America have been on the rise. Reports of crimes targeting individuals because of their race, religion, or sexuality have risen in American cities for past four years.

A criminal conviction is always about more than punishing the defendant or deterring others. It’s also a message about what kinds of behavior society will find acceptable. As a nation, we decided long ago to make hate crimes a federal offense—and to make them carry their own, sometimes lengthy, sentences.

We’re glad the jury in Victoria helped make the corollary case that in Texas burning down a mosque, whether anyone was hurt or not, is a federal case worth pursuing.

(c)2018 The Dallas Morning News



### Obama's words on identity politics better late than never

Democracy demands that we’re able to also get inside the reality of people who are different than us, so we can understand their point of view. Maybe we can change their minds, maybe they’ll change ours.”

That was Barack Obama speaking in South Africa on the 100th anniversary of Nelson Mandela’s birth.

The former president went on to say that you can’t change peoples’ minds “if you just out of hand disregard what your opponent has to say from the start. And you can’t do it if you insist that those who aren’t like you, because they are white or they are male, somehow there is no way they can understand what I’m feeling, that somehow they lack standing to speak on certain matters.”

Now, I am biased. I recently wrote a book making many of these and other points Obama made. But I also understand why many conservatives are dyspeptic about Obama pushing this message.

As president, and on his path to the presidency, Obama often exploited identity politics for partisan advantage. He called on Hispanic voters to “punish our enemies.” He appointed to the Supreme Court Sonya Sotomayor, who famously suggested that a “wise Latina” on the bench would come to better conclusions than a white male would.

Obama also had an annoying tendency to ascribe bad faith to anyone who didn’t share his opinions or conclusions.

Nevertheless, Obama is right. Identity politics is a fundamentally undemocratic phenomenon. It assumes that vast numbers of individual human beings can be reduced to the color of their skin, their gender or their sexual orientation. Diversity among different “kinds” of people is celebrated everywhere, but intellectual, ideological and political diversity among those groups is demonized. The idea that all I need to know about someone is the color of their skin—white or black—strips individuals of their individuality and their agency.

Obama is also right when he says that, “Strongman politics are ascendant suddenly, whereby elections and some pretense of democracy are maintained—the form of it—but those in power seek to undermine every institution or norm that gives democracy meaning.”

Obama implied that this is only a phenomenon of the right, and was almost surely taking a veiled shot at Donald Trump.

But this is a problem of the left, too. The right-wing popu-

By JONAH GOLDBERG

Tribune News Service

Jonah Goldberg is an editor-at-large of National Review Online and a visiting fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. You can write to him in care of this newspaper or by email at [JonahsColumn@aol.com](mailto:JonahsColumn@aol.com).



lism galloping across Europe is in no small part a response to the undemocratic tactics of the European Union, which looks at democratic accountability with a sovereign disdain.

More importantly, many nationalist-populist voters backed Trump in part out of their understandable frustration with the way “the establishment” ignored the will of voters and even Constitutional prohibitions. Obama, for example, said he couldn’t amnesty the children of illegal immigrants because the Constitution prevented him. Then he did it anyway.

But here’s the thing: I’m still glad Obama is saying these things because, again, he’s mostly right.

Americans have always detested hypocrisy, in part because this country was founded on the idea that monarchs and aristocrats were no better than anyone else. A king can be a hypocrite because kings aren’t subject to the laws governing their subjects. In America, the dogma of “Who are you to judge me” and “You’re not the boss of me” lives loudly in us. And I love that.

But everything good can become toxic if you increase the dosage too much. Our political culture has become poisonously obsessed with hypocrisy.

We act as if basic truths are untrue if the wrong messenger gives them voice. Former adulterers must not speak against adultery. Parents shrink from lecturing their children about, say, smoking pot or underage drinking for fear of feeling like hypocrites because they did those things when they were young. Never mind that good parenting requires giving your kids the benefit of lessons you’ve learned, not encouraging them to make the same mistakes you did.

I understand why some conservatives want to dismiss Obama’s statements. They only see the hypocrisy. But there’s a reason we say hypocrisy is the tribute vice pays to virtue. Hypocrisy is a good gauge of a person’s sincerity in defense of an ideal. It’s near useless in gauging the merits of the ideal.

Would it be better if Obama endorsed tribalism and identity politics? Obviously not. Would it be better if he’d lived up to and defended these ideals better when he was president? Yes.

But outside of Jesus, I’m unaware of anyone who lived up to their ideals all of the time. Meanwhile, let’s celebrate when our political opponents agree with us.

# The summer of 'Fortnite'

If you have a tween or teen kid, or grandkid or nephew or neighbor or any young person remotely connected to you, you probably know what "Fortnite" is.

If you don't know what it is, perhaps you've heard your kids discussing chug jugs, slurp juices, skins, and kills.

"Fortnite: Battle Royale" is a third-person shooter game in which players are dropped onto a previously-inhabited-but-now-apocalyptically-deserted island and fight other players to the death (although, happily, joining with their friends to do so). The violence is cartoonish compared with other similar games, and players get to build things like ramps and forts

## LITERARY NOOK

By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Joey "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired teacher and poet living on Tinian who taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.

## Space News, Neutrinos, and CNMI Lunar Eclipse Views

There will be a total lunar eclipse visible in the CNMI (depending on cloud cover) that you can watch without eye protection on Saturday, July 28, 2018, at 5:57am, ChST. Get an unobstructed view facing the western horizon around 5:30am and you will see a "blood moon" forming. The planet Mars is very close to it, two reds for the price of one.

### Welcome to a Neutrino from over Orion's Shoulder

It reminded me of the circus ringmaster introducing a group of acrobats Or 1960's TV variety show host Ed Sullivan's "A really big show tonight!" this new act was captured deep down inside drilled Antarctica's ice vats the neutrino came from \*3.7 billion LY away and triggered a scientific light.

Neutrinos, among smallest universal particles, are smaller than an atom they pass by the trillions through outer space and earth and us every day there are "three flavors" of neutrinos, in 1934 Enrico Fermi named them those from outer space we never knew where they started their way.

Some come from supernovae others made in linear accelerators on earth this one came from a blazar galaxy with black hole center behind Orion a scientific experiment hole on the cold South Pole traced it to its birth earth site and space telescopes scientists watch for them and keep trying.

A LY or light year is 9.5 trillion kilometers or 5.9 trillion miles, it is the distance light travels in a vacuum in one earth year, 365 days scientists want to find more neutrinos to learn about how our cosmos developed after the Big Bang explosion in so many different ways.

To do the math to find out how far away in miles that blazar galaxy is: multiply 3.7 billion (its distance in light years from earth) by 5.9 trillion miles, which is the number of miles in one light year.

### Relativity: A Wavy Cavity in Gravity

Cold entropy from within and without folds open millions of light years exposed hidden from our eyes I'm amazed, incredulous, positive, and hoping will string theory answer the how, whats, and whys.

Is not master Albert Einstein's theory of relativity worthy of all mathematical cosmological devotion as particle physicists challenge Newton's Principia gravitational lensing indicates light bends in motion.

Gravity holds us tied invisibly to our mother sun as we revolve around it with other planets all as one in gravity's clutches with Mercury, Venus and Mars our sun slowly becomes one of many red giant stars.

Galactic life evolves into eternal darkness forever continuing a long term expanding Big Bang endeavor.

to assist their quest—which seems weird, but apparently enjoyable. My four boys, ages 9 to 15, love it.

As a parent, I can see the upside. My kids tell me they're being "social." I'm not so sure that sitting on a couch in your basement talking through a headset to your friend sitting on his couch in his basement is being social. But I'll concede the point.

I do think the game crosses age-group categories in unique ways. I once walked into the room when my 9-year-old was playing with the 22-year-old brother of my 13-year-old's friend. If the two of them were together in my living room, I don't think they'd speak to each other, but "Fortnite" makes them playmates.

My boys also tell me they're working on teamwork, because they're not killing their friends, they're working with their friends to kill other people. I'll give them that one, too, because I'm feeling generous. (The other upside for parents: It adds a huge carrot to our bag of tricks. It's amazing how quickly bathrooms get cleaned and lawns mowed when "Fortnite" is on the line.)

But I see a downside. My kids want to play it all the time. And when they're not playing, they want to watch videos of other people playing. (I know this makes me earn the name "Old Man," but I just can't understand that.)

You can't tell them to stop playing either; the game designers brilliantly structured the game so that players simply cannot stop in the middle of a round (at least that's what my boys tell me). This has caused parents everywhere to learn how to disconnect their Wi-Fi, or unplug gaming devices and throw them across the room. But what concerns me most, partly as a parent, partly as a sociologist, is what they're not doing this summer because of the "Fortnite" craze.

With apologies for annoying nostalgia, I remember summer days laying in the grass, listening to the eerie call of the cicada, staring at the clouds overhead, and being utterly ... bored.

For my boys, boredom seems to be their most feared evil—worse even than eating Brussels sprouts.

What's even more interesting to me at this particular moment is how "Fortnite" has changed the way I experience parenting. I get primary parenting duties in the summer and this year, my task has been singular: find ways to occupy my

## 4 ways America is greater, and you are welcome

Like a late-night snacker foraging in the refrigerator for an overlooked carton of takeout fried rice, I have read between the headlines to excavate a few silver linings. In no particular order, here are four presidential gifts that are making all of us greater Americans.

Civics! We're getting a crash course in how government works, and this will make most of us better citizens and voters. Snooze through your high school class on the powers of the executive branch? Not to worry, we're all playing catch-up as we yell back at the television after every sweep of the executive pen, "Wait, wait, can he do that?" Maybe yes, maybe no, but time and again, we scramble to find out. As the next national election gears up, we will be better informed about the scope of the executive branch. When a candidate makes a promise, we'll know whether he or she can actually deliver, and if so, what it will take in terms of executive power, congressional finesse or judicial shenanigans. We're so much smarter now about how our country works!

Popular culture! How is the "The Manchurian Candidate" still a cultural touchpoint? The book was published in 1959, the good old days when people worked out all their differences at the drive-in by sharing burgers and fries. But now, the idea of an unwitting puppet who is remotely controlled by

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Thank you

The Bantalan Group would like to give *un dangkulo na si yu'u us ma'ase* to those who donated their time, financial assistance, and food donations during the annual Santa Maria Immaculada Fi-

### By JEFFREY S. DILL

The Philadelphia Inquirer



Jeffrey S. Dill teaches in the Templeton Honors College at Eastern University in St. Davids, Pa.

kids' time so they don't resort to "Fortnite." It means finding a job on a farm for the older two, and scheduling sports and activities for the younger two, planning outings to parks and museums, playing games in the backyard with them, and sending them off to a wilderness camp for two weeks where they don't have electricity, let alone Wi-Fi.

There are some who would explain all this away by describing this parenting approach as "concerted cultivation" of middle-class parents that seeks to implicitly reproduce class structures. Kids in these highly structured environments gain social and cultural rewards that their peers in disadvantaged settings don't get. I'm sure there's truth to that. But it seems to me that the tightly scheduled childhood of the summer of 2018 may have less to do with social-class reproduction and more to do with "Fortnite" workarounds.

The more fundamental point is how we humans, and human institutions like families, engage with technology, the fruit of human creativity and ingenuity. And how a product of human labor—a video game that can be played simultaneously by 3 million people around the globe—in turn reshapes our experience of being human. That's culture. Humans have been at it for millennia. It may be worth reflecting on how things like "Fortnite" reshape our experience of being human, and the benefits and consequences of that reshaping.

I just heard my boys make a break for the basement, so I need to herd them out to the yard to play a few rounds of "Whoppernerner" with me—a game they invented involving a ball and a trampoline and usually a few bloody noses.

I'm hoping those experiences stick in their memories from this summer more than chug jugs and pickaxes.

### By JOANNE CLEAVER

Chicago Tribune



Joanne Cleaver is a communication consultant who lives near Traverse City, Mich.

nefarious foreign powers is strangely relevant. I think we can all agree that our president has made nostalgia great again!

Vocabulary building! Quick quiz: What does treason really mean? What's a quisling? If a sentence is structured so that double negatives result in a positive, what's the net result of a triple negative? There's nothing like a bad example to bring out the suppressed third-grade grammar teacher lurking within us all. As we rapidly master new terms to describe the train wreck unfolding in the White House, we are becoming walking dictionaries. It's like studying for the ACT all over again, but with higher stakes.

Executive time! My personal favorite! Like kings of old, our president wields his smartphone scepter from the comfort of his comforter. Pajamas rule, which is why the day is best started in bed, propped on pillows, reading the news, guzzling Diet Coke and tweeting away. In this, the president exhibits true leadership, and I am happy to serve as an ambassador for the tradition and culture of "executive time." I now start most days in 600-thread-count luxury, reading the news, scrolling through my social feeds and managing email from bed. I'll know I'm truly honoring this example of sacrificial leadership when I don't have to get dressed until noon.

esta at Sugar Dock, Saipan.

A special "thank you" goes to Fr. Isaac Aguon, Gov. Torres, Mayor Apatang, and some officials as well as Reps. Paul Sablan and Ralph Demapan. Also to the other friends & families who generously donated to the event.

Again, thank you.

**Bantalan Group**

# The Weather

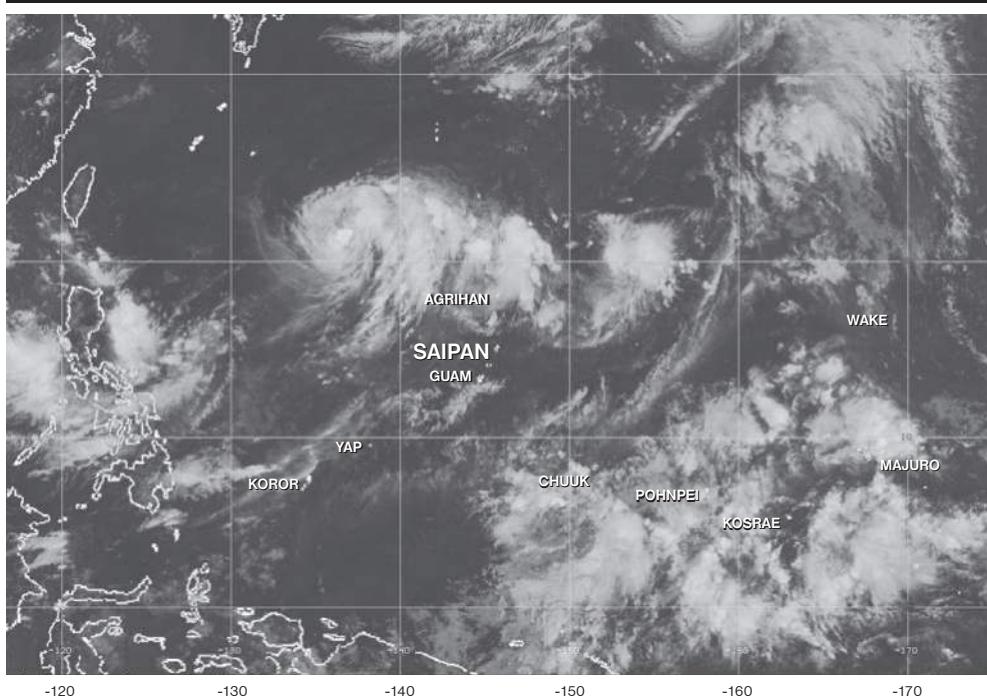
## 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. South winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. South winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲ 87°	▼ 76°	▲ 88°	▼ 77°	▲ 89°	▼ 78°	▲ 89°	▼ 78°	▲ 88°	▼ 77°
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------

## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



## PICTURE TIME: 6:16 AM, WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 2018

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

The forecast remains the same, with generally southwest winds the next week to 10 days, and fairly dry weather for late July into early August. Isolated thunderstorms will linger through Thursday night, but then conditions will become more stable from Friday on as the monsoon trough withdraws further north of the region. Winds and seas will slowly diminish as well toward the weekend.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

MICRONESIA		▲	▼	°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	87°	/	79°
Palau	Thunderstorm	84°	/	78°
Yap	Thunderstorm	86°	/	80°
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	86°	/	80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	85°	/	76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	85°	/	76°
Majuro	Mostly Sunny	85°	/	81°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲	▼	°F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	57°	/	50°
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	90°	/	75°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	88°	/	81°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	88°	/	77°
London	Partly Cloudy	88°	/	68°
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	92°	/	72°
Manila	Thunderstorm	84°	/	77°
Melbourne	Showers	57°	/	46°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	87°	/	80°
New York	Cloudy	85°	/	73°
Osaka	Thunderstorm	91°	/	79°
Paris	Mostly Sunny	93°	/	72°
Busan	Mostly Sunny	90°	/	81°
Rome	Sunny	91°	/	72°
Salem	Partly Cloudy	91°	/	71°
San Francisco	Sunny	67°	/	57°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	93°	/	79°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	86°	/	73°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	88°	/	73°



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:  
 ■ Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone  
 ■ \*11 on any IT&E cellular phone  
 ■ Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.net](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.net)

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
12:52 AM	LOW TIDE	1.19	
5:43 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.80	
1:14 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.19	
8:15 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.75	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET	
Today	5:57 AM	6:49 PM	
Friday	5:58 AM	6:48 PM	
Saturday	5:58 AM	6:48 PM	
Sunday	5:58 AM	6:48 PM	
Monday	5:58 AM	6:47 PM	

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	4:22 AM	5:36 PM
Friday	-	5:11 AM	6:23 PM
Saturday	-	6:00 AM	7:08 PM
Sunday	-	6:50 AM	7:50 PM
Monday	-	7:39 AM	8:31 PM

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235-3740. E-mail: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com). Website: [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

**CUSTOMER SERVICE** For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

**SUBSCRIPTION** Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

**ADVERTISING** For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: [sales@saipantribune.com](mailto:sales@saipantribune.com)

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 6, 2018

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117 8:45am 9:30am Daily				UA117 7:00am 7:45am Daily			
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451 3:10am 6:10am 1, 7				7C3452 9:00pm 2:10am+1 4			
7C3451 4:00am 7:05am 4, 5				7C3452 9:05pm 2:10am+1 3, 6, 7			
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308 2:00am 6:05am Daily				7C3402 9:30am 3:00pm Daily			
OZ626 2:10am 6:00am 1				OZ625 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7			
OZ626 2:50am 6:40am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7				TW307 7:45pm 1:00am+1 Daily			
LJ652 3:40am 7:30am 1, 4, 5, 7				OZ625 8:20pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6			
7C3403 4:45am 8:30am Daily				LJ651 9:10pm 2:40am+1 3, 4, 6, 7			
7C3401 4:00pm 7:45pm Daily				7C3404 10:10pm 3:40am+1 Daily			
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648 5:40am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7				3U8647 10:20pm 4:30am+1 3, 4, 6, 7			
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (GHG)				HANGZHOU (GHG)-SAIPAN			
JD396 7:30am 12:00pm 1				JD395 8:25am 3:30pm 4			
JD396 4:50pm 10:00pm 4				JD395 9:55pm 5:00am+1 7			
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6				3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5			
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)							

# OPA disowns chart comparing political bets

## Group: More action on trench monument needed



Laurie Peterka, right, secretary of the Friends of the Marianas Trench Marine Monument, gives a presentation on the Marianas Trench at the Rotary Club of Saipan meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan last Tuesday.

FAHIM UDDIN

By FAHIM UDDIN  
fahimuddin489@gmail.com  
REPORTER

The group called Friends of the Marianas Trench Marine Monument says that local and federal authorities should do more to fulfill the promises made by former U.S. president George W. Bush when he made the Northern Islands and surrounding waters part of the marine conservation sanctuary.

"They are doing okay but we need more than that. We [need more] support from the federal agency, federal government, and the CNMI. This issue we are facing right now in the marine monument is for everybody," said FTMM chair Ignacio V. Cabrera as guest speaker in Tuesday's Rotary Club of Saipan meeting.

The monument includes the Marianas Trench, considered the deepest part of the globe, and 95,216 square miles of submerged lands and waters in various places in the Mariana Archipelago.

The designation of the Marianas Trench as a monument happened in 2008 under President George W. Bush's administration.

Cabrera said the FTMM wants the community to better understand and support the monument, of which the original plans include, among other things, the building of a Marianas Trench exhibit, which includes a command center and a land-based sign trail where they teach science and promote the Marianas Trench.

In the future, Cabrera said they hope for more individuals to join the FTMM to explore ocean life.

FTMM secretary Laurie Peterka said the Marianas Trench Marine Monument continues to be a community-driven project that has a "void" left open by the federal government.

She said the federal government should treat the monument the way the local government takes care of the CNMI's World War II memorials.

"We have our World War II history signs around the island to tell us the history of the war effort here. We would like to do something similar to science and to help bring visibility on what's under the water by putting a sign on top on what's below," she said.

Fish and Wildlife fellow Abigail Gritis also gave an overview of what constitutes the monument, which is made up of three units—the trench unit, volcano unit, and island unit.

She said the monument is managed by both secretaries of Commerce the Interior (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service), in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Defense and the CNMI government.

She said FWS' program for the monument calls for conservation, culture, education, tradition, economy, research, management, and enforcement. According to her, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is in charge of scientific explorations at the monument.

The Office of the Public Auditor issued a press release yesterday dispelling ownership of a chart that compares the performances of gubernatorial candidates and allegedly issued by the office.

According to the press release that was signed by public auditor Michael Pai, "[OPA] has received numer-

ous inquiries regarding a chart appearing on social media in support of certain political candidates. The chart compares the performance of certain gubernatorial regimes in several benchmark categories and cites as its source 'CNMI Office of the Public Auditor.' Because of these inquiries and the fun-

damental importance of political abstinence by this office, OPA presents this press release to dispel any public misconception about the referenced chart.

"OPA did not prepare the chart appearing in social media referencing OPA as its source. The information contained within the chart is

such financial information that might be obtained from the annual CNMI single audit reports commissioned by OPA and OPA's annual reports. These reports are public records available on OPA's website. OPA has not reviewed the accuracy of the financial information in the chart." (Saipan Tribune)

## Bill could cut workers' access to paid leave

**WASHINGTON**—At a legislative hearing of the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions yesterday, Democrats criticized a Republican proposal that could ultimately cut workers' access to paid sick leave.

H.R. 4219, or the proposed Workflex in the 21st Century Act, preempts numerous state laws, including existing laws covering paid sick days, overtime and predictable scheduling if the employer offers a voluntary flexible leave program.

"H.R. 4219 does not guarantee workers the ability to earn time off to care for themselves or a loved one and many workers may not even be better off than the status quo," said Delegate Gregorio

Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), ranking member of the subcommittee. "This bill usurps the authority of state and local legislators to create critical workplace policies for their constituents, and its overly broad language would preempt employers from having to comply with state and local paid sick days laws, fair scheduling, overtime, and potentially a host of other laws."

According to data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, more than 34 million workers cannot earn a single paid day off to care for themselves when they get sick or to go to the doctor.

"This bill undermines the carefully crafted state and local laws that my colleagues and I have worked hard and thoughtfully to create," said

Rhode Island State Sen. Gayle L. Goldin. "We talk to business owners, we talk to employees, health care professionals, and community activists. The laws we pass reflect those conversations and the unique needs of our community. At the same time, these state and local paid sick and safe time laws have much in common with one another."

Committee Democrats continue to support a trio of paid leave and workplace flexibility policies introduced by Rep. Rosa DeLauro (CT-03) that will improve the quality of life for American workers:

"The Healthy Families Act establishes a worker's right to earn paid sick leave by providing one hour of sick leave for every 30

hours worked, up to 56 hours per year.

"The FAMILY Act guarantees workers twelve weeks of paid family and medical leave, financed through a social insurance program funded by both employees and employers who each contribute two-tenths of one percent (0.2 percent) of wages. In return, workers would receive two-thirds of their wages during eligible family leave."

"The Schedules that Work Act provides flexible, predictable and stable work schedules. The bill would give employees the right to make scheduling requests without employer retaliation, and provide retail, restaurant and janitorial workers with at least two-week's notice of their schedule. (PR)



### DIVING CERTIFICATION

Tinian Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services firefighters undergo open water scuba diving certification.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Group looks to burnish more WWII remnants

By FAHIM UDDIN  
fahimuddin489@gmail.com  
REPORTER

A new group made mostly of students hope to burnish the islands' World War II remains one relic at a time.

Richard Bareares, who was a guest speaker in Tuesday's Rotary Club of Saipan meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan, said the group, called The Historic Restoration Committee, is looking at working on World War II relics.

Earlier this year, the group repainted the Japanese tank at the intersection of Beach Road and Quartermaster Road using historic

photographs of the type and model of the World War II combat vehicle.

Bareares said former Saipan International School student R.J. Pierce, who has since relocated to the U.S. mainland, founded the group in February 2017.

By burnishing the islands' World War II memorials, the group hopes the community and tourists visiting the island would have a better appreciation of these relics and what they mean to the CNMI's history.

Pierce's passion for restoring World War II memorials stems from his Japanese roots.

At first, Bareares said the community doubted Pierce's capabilities in burnishing the monuments. Fortunately, Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang stepped in to support Pierce and the group's vision.

The group's first project was the Japanese tank, which they beautified from Jan. 20 to 27 this year.

After the Japanese tank's repainting, some community members criticized its new bright green tone, but the group said its new paint job is as close to the original version of the tank as possible, based on their research of old Japanese photo-

tos and documents.

Bareares said the group's next project is the World War II tank near the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport where Henry Hunter will be assisting.

At the moment, the group is composed of eight members between the ages of 14 and 24. They are willing to add more members who are interested in joining.

Historic Restoration Committee visited the mayor's office Tuesday to discuss their objectives in continuing to revamp the islands' World War II memorials and Apatang reaffirmed his support.

**Customers First**  
**TRIPLE J**

# TRUCKLOAD STORE direct from **KMART**

AMAZING DEALS ON DAILY ESSENTIALS, QUALITY BRANDS AND MUST-HAVE ELECTRONICS! • STORE HOURS: THURSDAY AND FRIDAY 11AM TO 7PM • SATURDAY 9AM TO 7PM • SUNDAY 11AM TO 6PM

**DEAL OF THE WEEK**

**NUVISION 10.1" 6.0 ANDROID TABLET WITH LEATHER CASE** **\$89.95**

**SUCASA SECURITY DOOR** **\$159.95**

**GAS ONE POTABLE BUTANE MINI STOVE** **\$44.95**

**DEALS**

**BRENTWOOD COFFEE THERMOS 52OZ STAINLESS STEEL** **\$14.95**

**KARAOKE USA SD519 PORTABLE KARAOKE WITH BLUETOOTH** **\$119.95**

**RHEATZA MICROWAVE CRISPER** **\$49.95**

**BRENTWOOD MINI DONUT MAKER** **\$19.95**

**GIBSON TABLE COMPLIMENTS SET WITH METAL RACK** **\$12.95**

**STERILITE 8" CAKE SERVER WITH HANDLE** **\$11.95**

**MAGISSO CERAMICS SERVING BOWL** **\$29.95**

**PAC IT FOOD STORAGE CONTAINERS 0.5L** **\$3.95**

**PLASTIC FOOD CONTAINER 7PC** **\$4.95**

**UNITED SOLUTION 17GAL WITH ROPE HANDLE** **\$8.95**

**RICE DISPENSER** **\$16.95**

**STERILITE WHITE 50QT IDTOTE BOX** **\$15.95**

**COLEMAN 28QT BLUE WHEELED COOLER** **\$48.95**

**ESSENTIAL HOME BLACK TREE FLOOR LAMP** **\$29.95**

**IMPRESS 16" PEDESTAL FAN WITH REMOTE** **\$35.95**

**ACDELCO 2.25 TON JACK KIT** **\$79.95**

**CRAFTSMAN 165PC MECHANICAL TOOL SET** **\$119.95**

**FOLDING DRYING RACK** **\$16.95**

**HANGER** **\$3.95 for 2**

**WESLO 3.0 CARDIO STRIDE MANUAL TREADMIL** **\$149.95**

**TORNADO FITNESS DELUXE GRAVITY INVERSION TABLE** **\$169.95**

**TORNADO FITNESS 100LB WEIGHT SET VINYL** **\$79.95**

**BABY SWING INDOOR/OUTDOOR** **\$14.95**

**Z SHADE EVEREST 10FTX20FT INSTANT CANOPY** **\$269.95**

**HONG MA 6FT FOLDING BENCH** **\$29.95**

**HONG MA 6FT TABLE** **\$42.95**

**GARDEN SHOVEL SQUARE** **\$6.95**

**GARDEN SHOVEL SPADE** **\$6.95**

**DAHDOL 5 STAR 1 PLY QUEEN SIZE** **\$15.95**

**MEMORY FOAM PILLOW MEDIUM** **\$14.95**

**DAHDOL 18PCS EMBROIDED BATH SET** **\$17.95**

**SLEEPING BAG** **\$12.95**

**FLANNEL BLANKET** **\$11.95**

**Scan QR code to LIKE our Facebook page and get the latest deals and products!**

**For more info, please call: 322-0430**

**FIVE STAR WHOLESALE FOODS**

**SAIPAN**

**MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED**

**Pacific Express** **AMERICAN EXPRESS** **MasterCard** **VISA** **JCB** **DISCOVER**

# Business

## US announces billions to help farmers hurt by Trump tariffs

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—The Trump administration announced Tuesday it will provide \$12 billion in emergency relief to ease the pain of American farmers slammed by President Donald Trump's escalating trade disputes with China and other countries.

However, some farm-state Republicans quickly dismissed the plan, declaring that farmers want markets for their crops, not payoffs for lost

sales and lower prices.

The Agriculture Department said it would tap an existing program to provide billions in direct payments to farmers and ranchers hurt by foreign retaliation to Trump's tariffs.

With congressional elections coming soon, the government action underscored administration concern about damage to U.S. farmers from Trump's trade tariffs and the potential for losing House

and Senate seats in the Midwest and elsewhere.

The administration said the program was just temporary.

"This is a short-term solution that will give President Trump and his administration the time to work on long-term trade deals," said Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue as administration officials argued that the plan was not a "bailout" of the nation's farmers.

But that provided little solace to rank-and-file Republicans, who said the tariffs are simply taxes and warned the action would open a Pandora's box for other sectors of the economy.

"I want to know what we're going to say to the automobile manufacturers and the petrochemical manufacturers and all the other people who are being hurt by tariffs," said Sen. John Kennedy, R-La. "You've got to treat everybody the same."

Sen. Ben Sasse, R-Neb., said the plan would spend billions on "gold crutches," adding, "America's farmers don't want to be paid to lose—they want to win by feeding the world. This administration's tariffs and bailouts aren't going to make America great again, they're just going to make it 1929 again."

The program is expected to start taking effect around Labor Day. Officials said the direct payments could help producers of soybeans,

which have been hit hard by retaliation to the Trump tariffs, along with sorghum, corn, wheat, cotton, dairy and farmers raising hogs.

The food purchased from farmers would include some types of fruits, nuts, rice, legumes, dairy products, beef and pork, officials said.

Trump did not specifically reference the plan during a speech to veterans in Kansas City, but asked for patience as he attempts to renegotiate trade agreements that he said have hurt American workers.



A field of corn is seen in front of a barn carrying a large Trump sign in rural Ashland, Neb., Tuesday, July 24, 2018. AP

## Newspapers endure more cuts, hope for brighter future online

U.S. newspapers are battered and broken, and this week's layoffs at the New York Daily News serve as the latest blow. But while local newsgathering has taken a hit, some observers think it's poised for a digital comeback.

Media company Tronc Inc. cut half of the Daily News' newsroom staff Monday, including the paper's editor in chief. The remaining staff, the company said, will focus on breaking news involving "crime, civil justice and public responsibility."

The Pulitzer Prize-winning tabloid has been a fixture in New York for the last century. Jere Hester, news director at

the City University of New York Graduate School of Journalism and a former staffer at the Daily News, bemoaned the gutting of a watchdog in the nation's largest city.

"Any time we lose a reporter covering a neighborhood or City Hall, the city is greatly diminished for it. Bottom line is, when you don't have reporters out there doing grunt work in the street, stories get lost," Hester said.

The anguish in the world's media capital exemplifies what's been happening in the rest of the country for years.

Estimated U.S. daily newspaper circulation, print and digital combined, fell 11 percent to

31 million in 2017, according to the Pew Research Center.

As recently as 2000, weekday subscriptions totaled 55.8 million. In just the last three years, employment in newsrooms has fallen 15 percent.

"We're seeing very steady pressure, wave after wave of layoffs, which means less journalism," said Rick Edmonds, a media business analyst at Poynter Institute. "We're starting to have a lot of places that are described as news deserts."

Concern about the layoffs extended beyond the media business to people who feared for a future with fewer facts.

New York Gov. Andrew M.

Cuomo urged Tronc to reconsider the cuts, saying they were made without notifying the state or asking for assistance.

"I understand that large corporations often only see profit and dividends as a bottom line. But in New York, we also calculate loss of an important institution, loss of jobs and the impact on the families affected."

The trend began more than a decade ago, when car dealerships, real estate companies and other businesses moved online and stopped paying newspapers for classified ads. Readers increasingly migrated to the internet and mobile apps and spent more hours on social media such as Facebook.

**Johnson blasts Trump on trade, calls it 'Soviet' economy**  
MADISON, Wis. (AP)—Republican U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson, of Wisconsin, is blasting President Donald Trump's trade policy, saying "This is becoming more and more like a Soviet-type of economy." Politico reported Johnson's comments on Tuesday after Trump's administration announced a \$12 billion plan to assist farmers who have been hurt by Trump's trade disputes with China and other trading partners. Johnson says, "This is becoming more and more like a Soviet-type of economy here: Commissars deciding who's going to be granted waivers, commissars in the administration figuring out how they're going to sprinkle around benefits." Johnson says, "I'm very exasperated. This is serious." Both Johnson and Democratic Sen. Tammy Baldwin have sent letters to Trump over the past week criticizing how his tariffs are hurting Wisconsin businesses and farmers.

**India's Modi arrives in Uganda in trip focusing on trade**

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP)—Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday announced a \$205 million loan to Uganda during a visit to the country, the second stop in his tour of Africa ahead of this week's summit of the BRICS emerging economies. The money will be used to expand Uganda's electricity grid and to promote agriculture and dairy farming, the governments said in a joint statement after signing bilateral agreements. Uganda's government depends heavily on outside money, especially loans from Chinese banks, to implement increasingly ambitious infrastructure projects. Modi first stopped in Rwanda, where he signed bilateral agreements and visited a model farm to which he donated 200 cows. In Uganda he met with the Indian community and will address the national assembly on Wednesday. He also will participate in a Uganda-India business summit. Modi then goes to South Africa for the BRICS summit.

**Wife of ex-St. Louis police chief killed by falling concrete**

ST. LOUIS (AP)—Authorities say a prominent businesswoman and the wife of a former St. Louis police chief was killed instantly when a 1-ton chunk of concrete fell from a bridge over a roadway and crushed her car. Police on Tuesday identified the victim as 58-year-old Janet Torrisi-Mokwa, the wife of former chief Joe Mokwa. Investigators say Torrisi-Mokwa was driving along Forest Park Parkway Monday when a driver lost control on the bridge over the parkway and slammed into the concrete barrier. A large chunk of concrete was dislodged and fell onto Torrisi-Mokwa's Tesla below. Police say the 22-year-old driver of the car that struck the barrier was treated for minor injuries. Torrisi-Mokwa was the founder of Congruence Inc., a leadership advisory firm, and was active with the Humane Society of Missouri.



### LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
19,974.62	2,270.76	5,483.94
+91.56	+8.23	+26.50
0.46%	0.36%	0.49%

### EXCHANGE RATES

	Hong Kong Dollar	7.85	Russian Ruble	63.34
Australian Dollar	1.35	Indian Rupee	68.81	Singapore Dollar
British Pound	0.7603	Japanese Yen	111.18	South Korean Won
Canadian Dollar	1.32	Malaysian Ringgit	4.06	Swiss Franc
Chinese Yuan	6.79	New Zealand Dollar	1.47	Taiwan Dollar
Euro	0.8558	Philippine Peso	53.37	Thailand Baht

# Nation

## Judge faults government tracking of separated families

**SAN DIEGO (AP)**—A federal judge on Tuesday criticized the Trump administration's accounting of hundreds of parents who may have been deported after being separated from their children at the U.S.-Mexico border, calling it "a deeply troubling reality."

U.S. district judge Dana Sabraw was responding to a government court filing that said 463 parents may not be in the United States. The government said those findings are based on case notes and are under review, signaling the number could change.

"It's the reality of a policy that was in place that resulted in large numbers of families being separated without forethought as to reunification and keeping track of people, and that's the fallout we're seeing," he said in a court.

The comments were in line with his long-standing criticism of the government's "zero-tolerance" policy on illegal entry for causing many families to be separated. He also praised the administration's recent efforts to reunite as many people as possible before his court-imposed deadline of Thursday, calling it "a re-



markable achievement."

As many as 2,551 children 5 and older are being considered for family reunification, though the administration deems more than 900 "either not eligible, or not yet known to be eligible, for reunification."

There have been 1,187 children reunified with their

parents or "other appropriate discharges," which include guardians and sponsors, according to a government filing.

Tuesday's hearing—the seventh in the case this month—came after negotiations broke down between the government and the American Civil Liberties Union on how

much time parents should have to decide whether to seek asylum after they are reunited with their children. The impasse kept a temporary halt on deporting reunified families in place at least until a hearing on Friday.

According to a government

filing in federal court on Tuesday, the administration proposed a four-day waiting period, three days shorter than the ACLU proposed. ACLU attorney Lee Gelernt disputed that account and said more details would be offered in a court filing

**AP** In this Monday, July 23, 2018, photo, immigrants seeking asylum who were recently reunited arrive at a hotel, in San Antonio.

Wednesday.

The Justice Department's longer waiting period would increase costs and occupy limited beds, David Jennings, an official at U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, said in a declaration filed with the court. It costs \$319 a day to detain a family member, and there are about 2,500 to 2,700 beds nationwide to house families.

The ACLU argues that parents need at least a week to discuss whether to seek asylum with their children, lawyers and advocates.

"Things are really a mess on the ground and we absolutely need seven days," Gelernt said.

Justice Department attorney Scott Stewart disputed Gelernt's remarks that reunifications were "a mess."

The two sides appeared close to an agreement on Monday when they jointly requested a 24-hour extension to iron out differences.

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Georgia lawmaker who used racial slur on TV will resign

**ATLANTA (AP)**—The state lawmaker who exposed himself and yelled racial slurs on provocateur Sacha Baron Cohen's new cable TV series will resign, according to a spokesman for Georgia House Speaker David Ralston. Rep. Jason Spencer will step down at the end of the month, spokesman Kaleb McMichen told the Atlanta Journal-Constitution late Tuesday. In Sunday night's broadcast of Cohen's Showtime series "Who Is America?" Cohen poses as an Israeli military expert who persuades Spencer to take part in several outlandish exercises. The lawmaker is told they're making a counterterrorism video. Spencer repeatedly shouts a racial slur for black people after Cohen tells him the tactic is useful for drawing bystanders' attention to an unfolding attack. He also drops his pants, then his underwear, before backing his exposed rear end toward Cohen while shouting "USA!" and "America!" Cohen told Spencer the move would incite fear in homophobic jihadists. The segment

also shows Spencer speaking with a mock Asian accent while pretending to use a selfie-stick to surreptitiously insert a camera phone under a Muslim woman's burqa.

#### Family says Oakland murder suspect mentally ill

**OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)**—A paroled robber who allegedly stabbed to death an 18-year-old woman in an unprovoked attack at a California train station is mentally ill and failed to receive proper treatment, his family said Tuesday. John Cowell, 27, was arrested Monday night on a Bay Area Rapid Transit train in the San Francisco Bay Area, about a dozen miles from the Oakland station where Nia Wilson was fatally attacked and her sister wounded Sunday night. It wasn't immediately known if Cowell had a lawyer. He was scheduled to be arraigned Wednesday and could be charged with first-degree murder. Authorities haven't released a motive for the attack but Cowell's family told KRON-TV in a statement that he has suffered from mental illness "most of his life." Cowell had been in and out of jail without re-

ceiving proper treatment, the family contended.

#### Cardinal warns church amid sex abuse scandal

**BOSTON (AP)**—A Massachusetts leader of the Roman Catholic Church says he's "deeply troubled" by allegations of sexual abuse by another cardinal. Boston Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley said Tuesday that alleged actions by Cardinal Theodore McCarrick "are morally unacceptable." Accusations against the 88-year-old McCarrick include a case involving an 11-year-old boy and decades-old sexual misdeeds with adults. O'Malley says the allegations highlight a "major gap" in the church's policies on sexual conduct and sexual abuse. McCarrick has been removed from public ministry since June 20, pending a full investigation into an allegation that he fondled a teenager over 40 years ago in New York City. A man, who was 11 at the time of the first alleged instance of abuse, says a sexually abusive relationship continued for two more decades. McCarrick has denied the initial allegation.

**NEW YORK (AP)**—A judge on Tuesday ordered the immediate release of an Ecuadorean immigrant who was held for deportation after he delivered pizza to a Brooklyn Army installation.

"Although he stayed in the United States unlawfully and is currently subject to a final order of removal, he has otherwise been a model citizen," U.S. District Judge Paul Crotty wrote of Pablo Villavicencio.

The Manhattan judge said Villavicencio, who was being held at a New Jersey lockup, can remain in the United States while he exhausts his right to try to gain legal status. Villavicencio applied to stay in the U.S. after he married a U.S. citizen, with whom he has two young girls.

The judge cited those children and said they are U.S. citizens.

"He has no criminal history," the judge wrote. "He has paid his taxes. And he has worked diligently to provide for his family."

The U.S. government, which had wanted the case moved from New York to New Jersey, did not immediately comment on the judge's action.

Villavicencio walked out of the immigration detention center shortly before 9 p.m. Tuesday and was greeted with hugs from his jubilant wife

and two young daughters. He thanked supporters and the media before being whisked away in an SUV.

Adriene Holder, the attorney-in-charge of the civil practice at the Legal Aid Society, said the rule of "law, humanity and morality" prevailed and the Villavicencio family has "finally received a crucial measure of relief from their 53-day nightmare."

"This decision should serve as a rebuke against the Trump Administration and its merciless crusade to tear families apart," Holder said in a statement.

The judge ruled after hearing arguments earlier Tuesday, when he put a government lawyer on the spot over the effort by immigration authorities to enforce a 2010 deportation order. He questioned the need to detain and quickly deport Villavicencio, who's 35 years old.

"Well, the powerful are doing what they want, and the poor are suffering what they must," the judge said after hearing Assistant U.S. Attorney Joseph Cordaro defend the government's actions.

"I mean, is there any concept of justice here or are we just doing this because we want to?" the judge asked. "Why do we want to enforce

the order? It makes no difference in terms of the larger issues facing the country."

Cordaro argued for the case to be transferred to New Jersey because Villavicencio is detained there. He said legal precedent dictated that New Jersey was the proper venue, an argument the judge rejected.

Cordaro said Villavicencio would still be able to pursue his application to become a legal U.S. resident after he is deported.

The case has attracted widespread attention amid a crackdown by the administration of President Donald Trump on illegal immigration. Trump, a Republican, has said his policies are designed to keep the country safe.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo, a Democrat, said the federal government has "cruelly" kept Villavicencio from his wife, Sandra Chica, and two daughters "for no legitimate reason."

Villavicencio was arrested on June 1 while making a delivery to the garrison in Fort Hamilton. When he arrived at Fort Hamilton, guards requested identification, and he produced a city identification card. A background check showed he had been ordered to leave the United States in 2010 but stayed.

# Asia

## Flooding from Laos hydroelectric dam leaves hundreds missing

**BANGKOK** (AP)—Massive flooding from a South Korean-constructed hydroelectric dam in Laos left several people dead and hundreds missing, state media said Tuesday. Rescue efforts were underway as top government officials rushed to the site and public appeals were launched for aid.

The official Lao news agency KPL said part of the Xepian-Xe Nam Noy hydro-power dam in southeastern Attapeu province collapsed Monday evening, releasing large amounts of water that swept away houses, flooded villages and made more than 6,600 people homeless.

The website of the state-run Vientiane Times newspaper said two people were confirmed dead as of Tuesday afternoon and the government had declared the area an emergency disaster zone. It said continued rain and strong winds predicted for the next few days could make the situation worse.

KPL said the disaster "left hundreds of people missing," without providing details.

Many areas of Laos have recently been hit by floods from heavy seasonal rains.

The dam was built by a joint venture led by two South Korean companies with Thai and Lao partners, and was still under construction.

SK Engineering & Con-



Villagers take refuge on a rooftop above flood waters from a collapsed dam in the Attapeu district of southeastern Laos, Tuesday, July 24, 2018. AP

struction, one of the two South Korean partners, said in a statement that "part of the upper area" of one of five auxiliary dams at the project "got swept away" Sunday night after several days of heavy rain. It said the auxiliary dam consisted mainly of earth and rock.

SK E&C said repair work was hampered by heavy rain, and damage to the dam wors-

ened on Monday, causing water to overflow and flood seven out of 12 villages in the area. The company said it joined rescue efforts and was trying to contain further damage.

Photos and videos posted on social media showed people sitting on rooftops to escape the surging water, while others were carried to safety or rescued by boat. State media

said helicopters were also being used to rescue people.

Prime Minister Thongloun Sisoulith suspended his government's planned Cabinet meeting and traveled with fellow ministers and other senior officials to Sanamxay district to monitor rescue and relief efforts, KPL and the Vientiane Times reported.

Provincial authorities issued

a call for emergency aid—clothing, food, drinking water, medicine, cash and other items—from the "party, government organizations, business community, officials, police and military forces and people of all strata."

Laos is one of the poorest countries in Asia. It has transitioned from communism to a market economy but remains a single-party state where

freedoms are limited. There is virtually no freedom of the press, and foreign reporters who visit operate under tight restrictions, limiting the flow of information.

Electricity from several hydroelectric dams provides a large share of Laos' export earnings, with Thailand being a major buyer.

KPL said the Xepian-Xe Nam Noy project cost an estimated \$1.02 billion. Much of the financing came from Thai lenders.

According to the website of the company that built and runs the dam, it is majority-owned by SK E&C and Korea Western Power. The Ratchaburi Electricity Generating Holding Public Co. Ltd. of Thailand holds a 25 percent stake and the Lao Holding State Enterprise holds 24 percent.

The dam was built to divert the Houay Makchanh, Xe-Namnoy and Xe-Pian rivers into reservoirs that feed into a 410-megawatt power plant that is due to begin operations in 2019. Only 10 percent of the power generated was to be used locally, with 90 percent exported to Thailand.

## Charges of rigging, intimidation mar Pakistan campaign

**ISLAMABAD** (AP)—As Pakistan prepares to make history Wednesday by electing a third straight civilian government, rights activists, analysts and candidates say the campaign has been among its dirtiest ever, imperiling the country's wobbly transition to democratic rule.

The campaign has been characterized by "blatant, aggressive and unabashed attempts to manipulate" the outcome, with media being silenced and the intimidation of candidates, according to Pakistan's Independent Human Rights Commission.

At the center of most allegations is the powerful military establishment, along with its intelligence agency, known by the acronym ISI.

The manipulation is seen as seeking to prevent the Pakistan Muslim League, the party of disgraced Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, from returning to power, while giving a shot at running the country to former cricket star Imran Khan and his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party, or PTI.

The rancorous campaign and charges of manipulation have polarized Pakistanis, and

whichever party loses is likely to cry fraud.

"Whatever way elections run, I see a lot of instability," said Ayesha Siddiqi, a defense analyst and author of "Military Inc.," about the massive financial holdings of Pakistan's military.

The military has ruled the country of more than 200 million people—directly or indirectly—for most of its history. Successive attempts at protracted democracy have been interrupted by military coups, the last one in 1999.

Pakistanis went to the polls in 2008 and elected their first civilian government in 12 years.

"This is quite a schizophrenic moment for Pakistan's democracy," said Moeed Yusuf, associate vice president of the Asia Center at the Washington-based U.S. Institute of Peace.

"On the one hand, you have completing 10 years of uninterrupted democratic rule. ... On the other hand, you've got all sorts of allegations of pre-poll rigging and manipulation."

The left-leaning Pakistan People's Party was propelled to victory in 2008 by sympathetic voters following the death of

their leader Benazir Bhutto, killed by militant radicals she had vowed to eradicate.

Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League, or PML-N, won in 2013, but he fell out with the military after questioning its links to some militant groups and seeking to make it subservient to parliament.

He was ousted last year after leaked documents from a Panama law firm revealed he and his family had undisclosed assets abroad. He was found guilty of corruption, banned from politics for life and sentenced to 10 years in jail, where he is appealing his conviction. His brother, Shahbaz Sharif, took over the party's helm.

"The shadow of the military looming over the election amplifies the continued struggles of democracy in Pakistan," said Michael Kugelman, deputy director of the Asia Program at the U.S.-based Wilson Center. "Allegations of army meddling and the fact that troops will be deployed on mass levels on election day make it crystal clear that this election process is not entirely a civilian-led process."

The manipulation is seen as seeking to prevent the Pakistan Muslim League, the party of disgraced Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, from returning to power, while giving a shot at running the country to former cricket star Imran Khan and his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party, or PTI.

The rancorous campaign and charges of manipulation have polarized Pakistanis, and

## PH rebel chief: 30K rebels to be disarmed in deal

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—The leader of the largest Muslim rebel group in the Philippines said Tuesday that 30,000 to 40,000 armed fighters would be "decommissioned" if an autonomy deal that is expected to be signed into law by the president this week is fully enforced.

Al Haj Murad Ebrahim, chairman of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, said six of the largest guerrilla camps in the south were already being converted into "productive civilian communities" to help the insurgents return to normal life.

Clad in a business suit, Murad appealed to the international community to contribute to a trust fund to be used to finance the insurgents' transition from decades of waging one of Asia's longest rebellions.

"We will decommission our forces, the entire forces," Murad said at a news conference in Manila. He said his guerrilla group has told the government how many fighters it has, although he declined to immediately cite the number of weapons that "will be put beyond use."

The military has put the Moro rebel group's size at a much lower 11,000 fighters.

Murad, who used to head the rebels' large combat force, welcomed the ratification by the House of Representatives on Tuesday of the Muslim autonomy deal after a one-day delay caused by a chaotic leadership change in Congress. The legislation, which was ratified by the Senate on Monday, is to be sent to President Rodrigo Duterte for signing in a day or two.

The bill seeks to replace an existing poverty- and conflict-wracked autonomous region with a potentially larger, better-funded and more powerful region named Bangsamoro for minority Muslims in the southern third of the largely Roman Catholic nation.

The autonomy deal is the latest significant attempt by the government to negotiate an end to nearly half a century of on-and-off Muslim fighting that has left more than 120,000 people dead and hampered development in the country's poorest regions.

Murad's guerrilla force

is the second in the south to have dropped a demand for a separate Muslim state in exchange for autonomy. The Moro National Liberation Front forged a 1996 peace deal with the government that led to the current five-province Muslim autonomous region, which has largely been regarded as a failure.

Western governments have welcomed the autonomy pacts, while worrying that small numbers of Islamic State group-linked militants from the Middle East and Southeast Asia could forge an alliance with Filipino insurgents and turn the south into a breeding ground for extremists.

Murad said it's crucial for the peace agreement to be fully enforced, citing how earlier failed attempts forced some guerrillas to break away and form more hard-line groups like the Abu Sayyaf, a brutal group listed by the United States and the Philippines as a terrorist organization.

"We can roughly conclude that all these splinter groups are a result of the frustration with the peace process," Murad said.

# World

## Wildfires in Greece kill 74 in deadliest blazes in decades

**RAFINA, Greece** (AP)—

The death toll from Greece's deadliest wildfires in decades climbed to 74 Tuesday as rescue crews searched on land and sea for those who sought to escape the blazes that engulfed popular summer resort spots near Athens.

The number of victims appeared set to go even higher, with crews checking charred homes and vehicles and the coast guard scouring beaches and deeper waters. There was no definitive count of the missing.

Fueled by 80 kph (50 mph) winds that frequently changed direction, the fires—one to the west of Athens near the town of Kineta and another to the northeast near the port of Rafina—spread at speeds that surprised many, trapping hundreds on beaches and cutting off escape routes.

All the casualties appeared to be from the fire near Rafina,



A burned house is seen in Agios Andreas, east of Athens, Tuesday, July 24, 2018. AP

some communities as a preventive measure.

Authorities urged the public to contact them about the missing. Many took to social media, posting photos and what was believed to be their last location before the fires hit.

Twenty-six of the dead were found after dawn Tuesday, huddled in a compound near the sea in the community of Mati, the worst-hit area near Rafina, about 50 kilometers (30 miles) west of Athens.

Red Cross rescuers said they appeared to be families or groups of friends because they were found hugging in groups of threes and fours.

Hundreds of homes and cars were believed to have been burned. Many vehicles were found with the keys still in the ignition and doors open, a sign of the urgency with which their occupants sought to flee the flames. Narrow roads quickly became jammed, forcing many to try to escape on foot. The ferocity of the fire melted cars' metal hub caps.

## Congo confirms end of latest deadly Ebola outbreak

**KINSHASA, Congo** (AP)—

Congo's latest outbreak of the deadly Ebola virus is over, the health ministry announced Tuesday, after a speedy response to limit its spread in remote rural areas and a city of more than 1 million people.

Health experts said the use of a still-experimental vaccine on more than 3,300 people was a major factor in containing the outbreak, Congo's ninth since the hemorrhagic fever was first identified in 1976.

There were 54 Ebola cases, including 33 deaths, in the outbreak that was declared in early May in northwest Equateur province, the health ministry said.

"Although the scale of the crisis we were facing was unprecedented, the speed and effectiveness of the response put in place by the government and its partners were also exceptional," Health Minister Dr. Oly Ilunga Kalenga said.

The outbreak posed a serious challenge when it spread to the city of Mbandaka and its more than 1 million residents. The other initial cases were in hard-to-reach rural areas without basic infrastructure such as electricity, making the vaccination efforts more difficult.

"From the start, we had prepared for the worst of scenarios," the health minister said. "And our fears were quickly confirmed" with the

spread to Mbandaka early on in the outbreak.

The city sits on the heavily traveled Congo River upstream from the capital, Kinshasa, and its 10 million residents. There were concerns the virus would spread not only within the country but to neighboring nations including Central African Republic.

The outbreak was declared over after a 42-day observation period, equaling two 21-day incubation periods, with no new confirmed cases recorded.

"It's a great relief for us," said Dominique Ekila, a 44-year-old resident of Kinshasa. "Since May, I had stopped traveling to Equateur province to sell fish ... With this announcement I will soon plan my next trip."

Esther Mavinga, who sells vegetables in Kinshasa, said she was grateful the outbreak was over.

"We were very worried that this epidemic would come to Kinshasa. The God we prayed to heard our prayers and spared us," she said.

There is no specific treatment for Ebola, which is spread via contact with the bodily fluids of those infected, including the dead. Symptoms include fever, vomiting, diarrhea, muscle pain and at times internal and external bleeding. The virus can be fatal in up to 90 percent of cases, depending on the strain.

"The number of killings is continuing to rise, which is stark evidence that governments and business are still not prioritizing this issue and

Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras declared three days of national mourning. Apart from the dead, which included children, hospitals treated 187 people, most for burns, with 10 listed in serious condition.

Although it had abated by Tuesday afternoon, the blaze

was far from extinguished and more than 230 firefighters were still trying to put it out, helped by volunteers and water-dropping aircraft. Another five fires continued to burn, with flare-ups reported in the blaze near Kineta. Authorities ordered the evacuation of

## More than 200 land activists slain last year, watchdog finds

**MEXICO CITY** (AP)—Killings of land and environmental activists rose in 2017 as Mexico and the Philippines registered worrying increases in such murders and Brazil saw the most ever registered in a single country, a watchdog group said Tuesday.

At least 207 people who were protecting land and resources from business interests were slain last year, up from 201 the year before, according to Global Witness. That makes 2017 the deadliest year since the group began formally recording such deaths in 2015.

The group said that its figures were almost certainly vast underestimates because of the difficulties of identifying and confirming such killings.

In many cases, consumer demand is helping drive the pressures as agribusinesses expand production of coffee, palm oil, sugar cane and other cash crops. For the first time, more activists were killed in confrontations with agribusiness as opposed to mining interests, the report said.

"The number of killings is continuing to rise, which is stark evidence that governments and business are still not prioritizing this issue and

have not showed any seriousness in tackling it," Ben Leather, the report's author, told The Associated Press.

The fact that more deadly conflicts were associated with agribusiness for the first time "should serve as a wake-up call to those businesses and to those investing in large-scale agriculture that they need to be better, too, and ensure that their money isn't funding this violence," he added.

In Brazil the scramble for control of the Amazon's resources often leads to conflict. It remained the most deadly country for land activists, with 57 people killed last year. That's the highest toll in a single year in any country since Global Witness began counting.

But there were also worrying jumps in the Philippines, which saw a 70 percent increase in such killings to 48—the most ever for an Asian country—and in Mexico, where the toll rose from three to 15. In the Democratic Republic of Congo, 13 people were killed, 12 of whom were park rangers protecting wildlife.

In the Philippines, 20 killings were linked to conflicts with agribusiness, and there are indications the military was involved in many of

them. The report linked the slayings to President Rodrigo Duterte's push to expand industrial agriculture, especially on the island of Mindanao, where most of the killings have taken place and where martial law has been declared. Eight of those slayings were of indigenous Taboli-manubo people resisting expansion of a coffee plantation.

A Philippine military commander, Lt. Gen. Benjamin Madrigal, said the military does not condone extrajudicial killings and troops are needed to enforce environmental laws and ensure that companies consult rural communities which could be affected by mining or agricultural businesses.

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte has declared his readiness to confront large corporations even if the government loses much-needed revenues.

"I warn irresponsible miners, along with their patrons, to stop destroying our watersheds, recharge areas, forests, and aquatic resources. You can no longer fish in our rivers. It's all contaminated. And the color is not even brown or white, it's black," the president said in a state of the union address on Monday.

Nearly half of activists who were killed last year in the southern Philippines were opposing the operations of corporate-owned agricultural plantations, said Leon Dulce of Kalikasan, a Philippine group that monitors attacks on environmental advocates. "How can you say that you're defending bio-diversity, the environment and natural resources if their frontline defenders, like the natives and farmers, become the target of your military and police?"

In Mexico, murders in the country hit a record high since comparable statistics began to be kept in the 1997. Global Witness linked the spike in activists' killings to organized crime and a generalized climate of impunity, saying the government is failing to implement protective measures and laws on environmental governance.

Those factors are not new for Mexico, but there can be a "cumulative effect" when the vast majority of crimes go unpunished, Leather said.

"As years of impunity go by, the perpetrators feel more emboldened than ever because they have more and more evidence that they're simply going to get away with murder," he said.

# Environment

## Climate change is turning sea turtle eggs female.

## What about alligators?

Adam Rosenblatt, a researcher at the University of North Florida, is studying whether alligator eggs react the same way to the rising temperatures that signal climate change as sea turtles do. For sea turtles, temperature determines sex and high temperatures have led to an abundance of female sea turtles.

By ALEX HARRIS  
MIAMI HERALD

**MIAMI**—Sometime in mid-August, 400 baby alligators will hatch on the roof of a building at the University of North Florida.

Researchers will scoop up the newborns and tally them up: male or female? If professor Adam Rosenblatt's hypothesis is correct, most of the tiny reptiles wriggling out of their manmade nests will be female, thanks to climate change.

The warming world has already launched a new — overwhelming female — generation of sea turtles. In the Pacific Ocean's most important sea turtle nesting area, females outnumber males 116 to 1, National Geographic reported. More and more South Florida sea turtles are born female too, said Florida Atlantic University Professor Jeanette Wyneken.

In the last decade, seven of the 10 years Wyneken and her students found every sea turtle nest they sampled in

Palm Beach County was totally female.

"Basically what we're seeing is when the temps would go over 31 Celsius (87.8 degrees Fahrenheit) we would pretty much have 100 percent female nests," she said.

That's because sea turtle sex is determined by the heat of the sand around them. Science has clearly shown that warmer nests mean more female sea turtles, but although alligator eggs also change sex depending on temperature, Rosenblatt said there's no research on how alligators react to rising temperatures.

"Nobody has really looked at future temperature scenarios and climate change and their effects on crocodilians," he said.

That's why he built 20 alligator nests out of chicken wire, dirt and hay, stocked them with \$20,000 worth of Louisiana Alligator eggs and covered some of them in vinyl to simulate warmer conditions. The "mini passive greenhouses" will add about five and a half degrees Fahrenheit of heat, which



Adam Rosenblatt, a researcher at the University of North Florida, is studying whether alligator eggs react the same way to the rising temperatures that signal climate change as sea turtles do. For sea turtles, temperature determines sex and high temperatures have led to an abundance of female sea turtles.

is what scientists expect in North Florida by the end of the century, he said.

Rain also plays a big role in determining temperature for both alligator and sea turtle nests. Rosenblatt is mixing in water as a variable to his research — first reported by WJCT — to test how alligator eggs react to extra heat, extra water, both or neither.

Wyneken said her research in the last five or so years has been focused on how rain and storm effect her sea turtle nests.

"What we found in essence was in years where we have more rainfall, with the exception of the very hottest temperatures, we would get more males in those nests," she said.

Alligator populations already skew female; only about 30 percent of wild alligators are male. Males mate with multiple females in a season, so a little bit more female alligators likely won't hurt the population too much.

"The concern is if that goes too far in one direction," he said. It's unclear exactly what

the long term effects of a primarily female alligator population would be, but he said it could spell trouble for the population.

But Rosenblatt cautions that just because alligator and sea turtle eggs both determine sex by temperature, it doesn't mean he'll see the same results sea turtle scientists do.

"I don't know, honestly, if sea turtles and crocodilians operate the same way," he said. "We don't exactly understand the mechanism for how the temperature different sex determination happens."

Higher temperatures do cause baby alligators to hatch faster, he said, and it makes adults grow slower. That's why scientists consider the Everglades a "marginal habitat" for alligators, Rosenblatt said.

There could be a future where the warming climate pushes the nation's alligator population north to cooler climates like Virginia.

"You might see the population decline and start to disappear from the Everglades," he said.

# Life & Style

## Rep: Pop star Demi Lovato awake and recovering with family

NEW YORK (AP)—A representative for Demi Lovato says she is awake and recover-

ing with her family after the pop singer was reportedly hospitalized Tuesday

for an overdose.

"Demi is awake and with her family who want to express thanks to everyone for the love, prayers and support," Lovato's representative said in a statement Tuesday evening. "Some of the information being reported is incorrect and they respectfully ask for privacy and not speculation as her health and recovery is the most important thing right now."

The statement did not provide any details on what led to the singer's hospitalization.



sources.

Lovato indicated in a new song released last month that she relapsed after six years of sobriety. On the song "Sober," she sings the lyrics: "Momma, I'm so

sorry I'm not sober anymore/And daddy please forgive me for the drinks spilled on the floor."

In her YouTube documentary released last year called "Demi Lovato, Simply Com-

plicated," she openly discusses her cocaine use and battles with alcohol.

Fox said it would pull its episode of "Beat Shazam" featuring Lovato, which was to air Tuesday night.

"We have decided to replace the episode of Beat Shazam with another all-new episode. Our thoughts go out to Demi and her family," the network said.

Lovato was scheduled to perform in Atlantic City on Thursday.

### Roseanne Barr will appear on TV for first time since firing

LOS ANGELES

(AP)—Roseanne Barr will appear on television for the first time since she was fired from ABC and her namesake show was canceled.



Barr will be a guest on the Fox News show "Hannity" on Thursday at 9 p.m. EDT.

ABC canceled its successful reboot of "Roseanne" in May following the star's racist tweet likening former Obama adviser Valerie Jarrett to a cross between the Muslim Brother-

hood and a "Planet of the Apes" actor.

Barr recorded a podcast interview last month in which she said she feels remorse about the tweet.

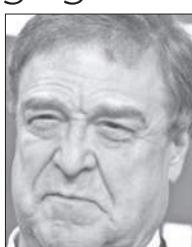
During the live interview Thursday, she's expected to discuss the tweet as well as President Donald Trump.

ABC said it ordered 10 episodes of a spinoff called "The Conners" after Barr relinquished any creative or financial participation in it.

### Actor John Goodman in Missouri ad opposing right to work

JEFFERSON

CITY, Mo. (AP)—Actor John Goodman is featured in a radio ad opposing a right-to-work law on Missouri's Aug. 7 ballot.



The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported Tuesday that the ad is airing in the St. Louis market.

Goodman says the law is marketed as a way to help workers. But he tells voters to "look a little deeper, and you'll see it's all about corporate greed."

Goodman starred on "Rose-

anne." He went to high school and college in Missouri.

Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists paid for the ad.

Right-to-work supporters say workers should be able to choose whether they pay fees in industries that require union membership.

Missouri lawmakers passed the law banning mandatory union fees last year. Opponents gathered enough signatures to put it to a public vote.

### Board recommends Cosby be found a sexually violent predator

By CLAUDIA LAUER  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

A Pennsylvania board recommended Bill Cosby be classified as a sexually violent predator, which would require the former TV star to attend at least monthly sex offender counseling—in prison and out—and police to post warning flyers throughout his neighborhood whenever he is freed.

It is now up to a judge to decide whether to accept

the finding by the Pennsylvania Sexual Offenders Assessment Board.

The district attorney's office that prosecuted Cosby asked a judge Tuesday to schedule a hearing in the matter. No date was immediately set.

"We will see them in court," responded Andrew Wyatt, Cosby's spokesman.

The 81-year-old Cosby was convicted April 26 of



aggravated indecent assault and faces up to 10 years in prison when sentenced Sept. 24. He has denied any wrongdoing, and his representatives said he will appeal.

The actor and comedian known for his portrayal of kindly Dr. Cliff Huxtable on his NBC hit "The Cosby Show" was accused of drugging and assaulting former Temple University employee

Andrea Constand at his home near Philadelphia in 2004.

The weeklong retrial in suburban Philadelphia included testimony from five other women who were among dozens who have stepped forward to accuse Cosby of similar sexual misconduct.

State law defines a sexually violent predator as a person who has "a mental abnormality or personality disorder that makes the person likely to engage in predatory sexually violent offenses."

### Italian antique desk once displayed in NYC's Met recovered

ROME (AP)—Italian police said Tuesday they had recovered an 18th-century ebony desk that was illegally taken abroad after World War II and ended up for a time on display in New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art.

The desk, made with ivory and mother of pearl inlays, is considered a masterpiece of

Pietro Piffetti, one of the most important ebony carpenters of his time. Italy's carabinieri art squad police unit said the desk was believed to be worth more than 2 million euros (\$2.3 million).

According to a carabinieri statement, the desk left Italy sometime after the war and traveled to France and Swit-

zerland before arriving in the United States in 1996.

It was exhibited at the Met for some time, but Carabinieri Lt. Col. Silvio Mele said the museum wasn't implicated in any wrongdoing.

He said the owners of the desk simply took it out of Italy without proper permissions, which would

have been required for such an artistically and historically important piece of furniture.

The Met confirmed the desk had been on temporary loan in the late 1990s and was returned to its owner more than a decade ago, according to a museum spokesperson.

### Visit with parents bring tears to daughter's eyes

DEAR ABBY: My parents live a simple life, enjoying their days as retirees. They invite me to join them for special occasions at their house (my childhood home) and although the house is organized and tidy, I become ill when I spend more than a few hours under their roof.

Their cleaning practices are questionable. They simply rinse plates and utensils after use, as opposed to using the dishwasher. Within an hour of arriving, the dust makes my allergies and asthma flare up. They prefer to launder clothes, sheets, blankets, etc. only occasionally out of concern about "wasting water" and money. Their dog and cat have urinated throughout the house, and my parents claim to not be able to smell it.

I don't want to hurt their feelings by declining their invitations, but I can't stand to get sick every time I walk through their door. Help!

SNEEZING IN THE SUBURBS

DEAR SNEEZING: You're right, you can't. That's why it's time to speak up and tell your parents your allergies flare up when you visit their house. If you're expected to spend the night there, tell them that from now on you'll sleep at a hotel/motel nearby. And before using them, either wash their eating utensils or take your parents out for meals, which will make it easier on all of you.

### DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

bracelet every day.

When I bring it up, he says he tells everyone he meets that he's married or mentions me in conversation. I'm not worried about him being unfaithful. I just like the way a ring looks and makes me feel. Advice?

SYMBOLIC IN FLORIDA

DEAR SYMBOLIC: You have been married—I presume happily—for 32 years. Not every man is comfortable wearing a ring. (My husband happens to be one of them.) My advice is to stop obsessing, let it go and let him be himself.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested—poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

DEAR ABBY: My ex-wife took my 8-year-old son to a gay

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson

## Garfield®



By Jim Davis

## Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

## The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy

## CROSSWORD

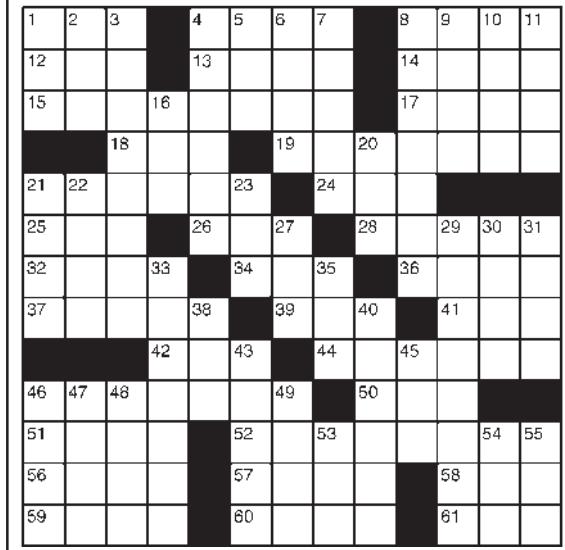
By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	42	Guitar's	42	Guitar's	DOWN	20	Wall St.
1 Baseball		kin		1 Family	docs	wheeler-dealer	
4 Commotion	44	Hip	place?	2 Wrestling	21	Bosc, for	one
8 Indy	46	Pure bliss	50	Record	22	Gymnast	Korbut
event	50	Shoe	width	4	23	Apply	cream
12 Bit of	51	Con-	52	Far East	27	Zero	injustice
butter	51	verse	52	capital	29	Great	
13 Largest	52	Full of	52	CIA	30	Cab	
continent	52	sight-	52	fore-	31	Spuds'	buds
14 Flair	52	seers,	52	runner	33	Speak	haltingly
15 Coif	52	like	52	6 Bubble-	35	Energy	
creators	52	Times	52	head	38	Alias abbr.	
17 "Hey!"	52	Square	52	7 Caravan	40	Swerved	
18 Back talk	56	Ginor-	52	stops	43	Bar	legally
19 Fanatics	56	mous	52	8 Wrote	45	Luau	souvenir
21 Sulked	57	Shrek, for	52	9 Too	46	Rever-	berate
24 — Lanka	57	one	52	10 Group	47	Pal	
25 Over-	58	—la-la	52	of	48	Heroic	tale
head	58	Actor	52	actors	49	Medita-	tive
trains	58	Sharif	60	11 Tolkien	53	practice	
26 Actor	60	Settled	60	creatures	54	Swiss	canton
McKellen	61	the bill	61	61 "Delish!"	55	Capote	nickname
28 Midler of	61	Set afire	61	16 Set afire		Candied	veggie

Solution time: 24 mins.



Yesterday's answer 7-26



For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**STUMPED?**

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Bianca Santos, 28; Kate Beckinsale, 45; Sandra Bullock, 54; Helen Mirren, 73.

**Happy Birthday:** A critical look at your options will help you avoid taking on too much. Positive changes can be made if you are willing to let go of the people and situations weighing you down. Living within your means and being willing to say no to anyone who is costing you too much will help you prepare for future victories. Your numbers are 5, 17, 23, 25, 31, 36, 42.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): Don't slow down or give up when you should move forward with enthusiasm. Network and share ideas with like-minded people to come up with ways to interest those less willing to take the plunge and follow your lead. ★★

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Live and learn. Don't be afraid of change. Do your research and make a point to leave no room for error. How you handle situations will make a difference. Diplomacy will trump force. Use your clout wisely. ★★★★

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Visiting friends or relatives can be stressful if you haven't made proper arrangements. Have alternative plans in place. Talks will lead to changes that may be challenging initially, but in the long run will be beneficial. Stick to your plans. ★★★

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Don't let the past bring you down or hold you back.

Look at the possibilities that come with change, and be willing to try something new. Love, romance and personal improvements will enhance

your life and spark your creative imagination. ★★★

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Think big, but proceed with moderation. Knowing your limits will help you avoid taking on too much. Suggestions rather than hands-on help will allow you to focus on your achievements instead of helping someone else surpass you. ★★★

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Creativity will help you reach your goal. Whether it's a partnership or personal growth you are trying to improve, addressing issues with an open mind will help you resolve any issues that arise. Romance is in your best interest. ★★★★★

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): If you want something done, do it yourself. Don't let laziness be what holds you back. Focus on finishing what you start before someone critical has a chance to put in a complaint. Personal change will prompt new beginnings. ★

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Make some noise if you aren't happy with something, but don't back yourself into a corner. Have an alternative plan ready to offer or put into play if you can't seem to work alongside someone you feel is asking too much. ★★★★

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Visiting friends or relatives can be stressful if you haven't made proper arrangements. Have alternative plans in place. Talks will lead to changes that may be challenging initially, but in the long run will be beneficial. Stick to your plans. ★★★

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Don't let the past bring you down or hold you back.

Look at the possibilities that come with change, and be willing to try something new. Love, romance and personal improvements will enhance

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COURTESY 2007  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take a moment to consider what others want from you. A change you make at home won't please everyone, but if it works for you, stick to your decision and follow through with confidence. An adjustment in your life is favored. ★★★

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Put more time and effort into personal improvements. Discuss plans with someone you love or work with; you will come up with a plan that will serve everyone's best interest. Put some muscle behind your words and get things done. ★★★

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Favors will be granted. Touch base with people you have worked alongside in the past; you will be given the support you need to accomplish your goals. A romantic gesture is favored and will bring you closer to someone you love. ★★★

**Birthday Baby:** You are dedicated, ambitious and perceptive. You are unpredictable and outgoing.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

		7					1	
2			6				8	
6			5	7	3		3	
	9		3				5	
5			7				2	
4	1		8				2	
7			3				4	
8			4				9	
5			7				2	

Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

8	5	7	3	6	9	4	1	2
3	4	2	1	8	5	9	6	7
9	6	1	7	4	2	8	3	5
1	7	9	8	2	3	5	4	6
6	8	3	5	9	4	7	2	1
5	2	4	6	1	7	3	9	8
7	9	8	2	3	1	6	5	4
2	3	5	4	7	6	1	8	9
4	1	6	9	5	8	2	7	3

Difficulty Level ★★★

## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

VINYL RECORDS MAKE A COMEBACK!

Solution: 9 letters

T	S	P	E	A	K	E	R	S	®	B
U	R	R	E	D	R	O	E	L	D	E
R	E	C	O	R	D	I	N	G	S	®
N	Y	N	N	T	S	A	L	E	R	M
T	A	S	H	O	A	O	N	N	O	I
A	L	L	A	I	T	N	C	N	A	E
B	P	I	B	E	N	T	I	G	E	P
L	R	S	H	U	B	C	O	S	Q	R
E	E	T	D	I	M	A	E	U	N	C
V	S	E	N	P	S	L	M	D	A	A
O	S	N	T	A	A	H	A	C	E	O
O	E	L	C	E	E	B	O	G	I	N
R	S	I	L	M	D	E	P	S	T	P
G	T	E	O	C	E	C	N	E	G	R
Y	R	H	P	A	R					

## CLASSIFIED ADS

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
RFP NO.: RFP18-BECQ-124

SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 20, 2018 TIME: 09:00 A.M.  
"GROUNDWATER MONITORING SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS EVENT –  
FORMER W-2 SERVICE STATION IN THE CNMI FOR THE  
BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND COASTAL QUALITY"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP **MUST** BE SUBMITTED VIA-EMAIL TO **MR. RAY MASGA, DIRECTOR OF DEO, AT raymasga@deo.gov.mp** NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, 4:30PM, LOCAL TIME, AUGUST 10, 2018.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ELI D. CABRERA  
ADMINISTRATOR, BECQ  
/S/ HERMAN S. SARLAN  
DIRECTOR, PROC. & SUPPLY

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Articles of Dissolution of Vida Resort Development, a corporation established and operating in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, has been filed with the CNMI Registrar of Corporation on 26th day of June, 2018. Pursuant thereto, all creditors and persons with claims against the corporation are hereby notified to present their claim in writing to the corporation at the address set forth below:

Vida Resort Development  
PMB 917 Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950  
All claims not filed within the time required  
by law will forever be barred.

/s/ Chen, Chien Yeh  
President for Vida Resort Development

Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper  
for more news, value and information.  
SUBSCRIBING MEANS MORE  
Please call 235-NEWS

**Northern Marianas Humanities Council**  
Navigating the Human Experience

## Employment Opportunity

### Executive Director

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council (Council) is inviting dynamic, motivated, and self-driven individuals with strong interest and previous experience in the humanities to submit an employment application for the position of Executive Director.

The Executive Director is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the Council's administrative, financial, and program activities under the supervision of the Council's Executive Committee. A detailed description of the Executive Director's duties may be obtained from the Council's office in Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai or from the Council's website at [www.northernmarianashumanities.org](http://www.northernmarianashumanities.org).

Applicants for this position must possess: (1) a Bachelor's degree (Master's degree preferred) in an area of the humanities from an accredited post-secondary institution; (2) supervisory experience of at least three years as a director of programs preferably relating to the humanities and at least three years of experience in Federal programs administration preferably in an area relating to the humanities; (3) a solid knowledge of accounting, budgeting, financial management, marketing and strategic planning; (4) demonstrated experience with resource development, fundraising strategies, and cultivating donor relations; (5) an in-depth knowledge of Northern Mariana Islands culture, history, political and social developments, current events, and he/she must have familiarity with the Pacific region as a whole; (6) an ability to work well in a multicultural setting and a high level of communication and leadership skills.

The salary range is from \$50,000 to \$55,000 depending on qualifications and experience. Benefits are set forth in the Council's Personnel Policy Manual.

Interested individuals are invited to send an application package including (1). letter of interest; (2). detailed resume with proof of educational attainment; and (3). the names and addresses of three references to:

Polly DLG. Masga  
Board Chairperson, Northern Marianas Humanities Council  
P.O. Box 506437, Saipan, MP, 96950

Complete application packages must be received by the Council on or before **4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 31, 2018**. The Council reserves the right to extend the submission deadline at its convenience. For more information about this employment opportunity, please contact Council staff at 235-4785.

*The Northern Marianas Humanities Council is an equal opportunity employer.*

PLACE YOUR ADVERT HERE!  
For opportunities contact us at 235-6397

VEIOVIS™

## Career Opportunities

We now have the following  
positions open:

**Home Health RN**  
Full-time - Starting Rate  
**\$28/hr**  
with flexible schedule

Job descriptions can be viewed on our website below.  
Please fax resume to 1-671-647-3556 or e-mail to [hr@veiovis.com](mailto:hr@veiovis.com)  
[www.veiovis.com/career.php](http://www.veiovis.com/career.php)

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER AND A DRUG  
AND SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENT

WHATZIT Solution: Long in the tooth

## CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

## CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

## ADVERTISING DEADLINE

## Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

## CANCELLATION

## Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

## REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

## CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

## ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

**WHATZIT?**™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

**KLONG9**

[www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames](http://www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames)  
Find today's solution in classified section

# Phillies outlast Dodgers in 16-inning marathon



PHILADELPHIA (AP)

The Phillies' relievers just kept shutting down the Dodgers, and Los Angeles finally ran out of pitchers.

Trevor Plouffe hit a three-run homer off outfielder Kike Hernandez with one out in the 16th inning as Philadelphia outlasted the Los Angeles Dodgers 7-4 Tuesday night in a game that lasted nearly six hours.

After using eight pitchers, the Dodgers turned to Hernandez (0-1) in the 16th. He got Nick Williams to fly out, then walked Jesmuel Valentin and Jorge Alfaro before Plouffe hit an opposite-field shot for his first homer of the season and second career walkoff, ending the game after 5:55.

"All I want to do is contribute to a victory," Plouffe said. "I love being on a winning team. Just trying not to do too much. I was trying to elevate the ball."

Eight Phillies relievers combined to allow one run and six hits over 11 impressive innings, with regular starter Vince Velasquez (7-8) pitching the top of the 16th. Velasquez, who tossed seven scoreless innings in the second game of Sunday's doubleheader win against San Diego, made his first relief appearance since 2015.

Velasquez, who lobbied manager Gabe Kapler to pitch, had to get out of a jam as Cody Bellinger singled with one out and Alex Verdugo drew a walk one out later. The runners advanced on a wild pitch, but Velasquez struck out Logan Forsythe to end it.

"Just a good feeling," he said.

After Adam Morgan allowed a solo homer in the sixth, the six traditional relievers who preceded Velasquez tossed eight scoreless innings while combining for 10 strikeouts, two walks and four hits.

"Our bullpen is nasty," said left-hander Austin Davis, who pitched two innings. "Everyone, top to bottom, is gross. Our bullpen is disgusting."

The game, which was delayed 14 minutes at the start by rain, finished at 1:14 a.m.

"That was a long game, but when you win it makes it a little less long," Davis said. "That was a blast."

The teams combined to use 18 pitchers.

Williams and Jorge Alfaro homered for the Phillies, who moved a game ahead of Atlanta for first place in the NL East.

## Pirates 9, Indians 4

In Cleveland, Starling Marte, Gregory Polanco and Josh Bell each hit a two-run homer, and the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the Cleveland Indians.

The Pirates routed the Indians for the second straight

AP

Philadelphia Phillies center fielder Odubel Herrera catches a line out by Los Angeles Dodgers' Chase Utley during the 12th inning of a baseball game early Wednesday morning, July 25, 2018, in Philadelphia. Philadelphia won, 7-4.



night. Marte homered in the first inning, drove in three runs and extended his career-high hitting streak to 17 games.

Polanco homered and Corey Dickerson tripled in two runs when Pittsburgh scored five times in the second.

## Athletics 13, Rangers 10, 10 innings

In Arlington, Khris Davis' three-run homer in the 10th inning capped Oakland's comeback from an eight-run deficit.

Davis went deep against Austin Bibens-Dirkx (2-3) for the Athletics' fourth homer of the night—their third consecutive game with that many. Oakland's 92 homers on the road lead the majors.

## Orioles 7, Red Sox 6

In Baltimore, Tim Beckham and Jonathan Schoop homered and drove in three runs each, and Baltimore withstood four long balls by Boston in a victory.

It was only the third loss in 18 games for the Red Sox, who have the best record in the major leagues (71-32) and a five-game lead over the New York Yankees in the AL East.

## Yankees 4, Rays 0

In St. Petersburg, Masahiro Tanaka pitched a three-hitter, and Austin Romine drove in two runs as the replacement for again-injured catcher Gary Sanchez.

Tanaka (8-2) retired his first 12 batters before C.J. Cron singled leading off the fifth. He struck out nine and walked one, improving to 6-0 on the road.

## Brewers 5, Nationals 4, 10 innings

In Milwaukee, Tyler Saladino's bases-loaded sacrifice fly in the 10th inning lifted Milwaukee.

Lorenzo Cain led off the 10th with single up the middle off Matt Grace (0-1), the sixth Nationals pitcher. He moved to third on Christian Yelich's single to right.

## Cardinals 4, Reds 2, 11 innings

In Cincinnati, Austin Gomber took a no-hitter in the seventh inning and Dexter Fowler hit a two-run shot in the 11th, leading St. Louis over Cincinnati.

Mired in a season-long slump, Fowler connected off left-hander Amir Garrett (0-2) for only his second homer while batting right-handed.

Sam Tuivailala (3-3) escaped a two-on threat in the 10th. Bud Norris got his 19th save in 22 chances, one night after he took a loss.

## Astros 8, Rockies 2, 10 innings

In Denver, Tony Kemp lined a go-ahead single off closer Wade Davis as part of a six-run 10th inning and Houston beat Colorado.

Kemp's one-out hit brought in Josh Reddick, who led off the inning with a single to center that Charlie Blackmon misplayed and had bounce by him. A hustling Reddick wound up on third and set the stage.

Davis (0-3) later surrendered a two-run triple to pinch-

hitter Kyle Tucker and a two-run homer to George Springer as the Astros beat the Rockies for the seventh straight time in a streak that dates to 2013.

## Diamondbacks 5, Cubs 1

In Chicago, Clay Buchholz pitched effectively into the seventh in his return from the disabled list, Steven Souza Jr. had three hits and an RBI and Arizona won its third straight.

Buchholz (3-1), sidelined since June 25 with an oblique injury, walked two and struck out five in 6 2/3 innings as he lowered his ERA to 2.38 in eight starts with Diamondbacks.

## Giants 4, Mariners 3

In Seattle, Steven Duggar scored from second base on a throwing error by Dee Gordon with two outs in the ninth inning and San Francisco beat Seattle.

Pinch-hitter Pablo Sandoval hit a slow roller toward second base that Gordon charged from the outfield grass. Sandoval was going to beat the play, but Gordon still tried a rushed throw, and Ryon Healy was unable to handle it as it bounced toward the Seattle dugout, allowing Duggar to score.

## Marlins 9, Braves 3

In Miami, Wei-Yin Chen pitched six innings and scored the first run of his career to help Miami beat Atlanta.

J.T. Realmuto hit his 13th homer of the season for Miami and drove in four runs. Starlin Castro added a three-run homer, his eighth, and Brian Anderson had three hits and scored three times.

Chen (3-7) allowed three runs and five hits. He doubled to start a five-run fifth for his first extra-base hit in 82 career at-bats, and raced home from third on Realmuto's grounder, barely beating a poor throw by

shortstop Dansby Swanson.

## Mets 6, Padres 3

In New York, Devin Mesoraco hit an early three-run double and made a heads-up play on defense that helped Zack Wheeler and New York defeat San Diego.

Michael Conforto launched a two-run homer, extending his recent tear at the plate, and Wheeler (4-6) pitched seven crisp innings to win his second consecutive start.

Before that, the right-hander went 13 outings without a victory dating to April 29 in San Diego—the longest stretch without a win for a Mets starter in 20 years.

Before the game, New York put Yoenis Cespedes on the 10-day disabled list again. The team said it was awaiting a second opinion before deciding whether the oft-injured slugger needs surgery on both feet that could require an eight-to-10-month recovery.

## Twins 5, Blue Jays 0

In Toronto, Jose Berrios and two relievers combined on a five-hitter, and Eduardo Escobar hit a three-run home run for Minnesota.

Berrios (10-7) allowed four hits, three of them singles, in seven innings. He walked one and struck out nine to win for the second time in three starts. Trevor Hildenberger worked the eighth and Ryan Pressly finished for the Twins, who have won two straight following a three-game losing streak.

# Cavaliers sign Love to 4-year, \$120M extension



**INDEPENDENCE, Ohio** (AP)—Kevin Love signed his new contract and proudly put on a hard hat.

The Cleveland Cavaliers will rebuild around him.

The All-Star forward made a long-term commitment to the franchise on Tuesday by signing a four-year, \$120 million extension with the Cavaliers, who believe Love can help them stay competitive following LeBron James' departure.

The 29-year-old Love, who was nearly traded twice by Cleveland, signed the extension in front of dozens of construction workers inside Quicken Loans Arena, the team's downtown home, which is undergoing a \$140 million renovation not unlike the makeover taking place with the four-time defending Eastern Conference champions.

The symbolic moment wasn't lost on Love, who came to Cleveland four years ago to join James and Kyrie Irving and form the Cavs' "Big 3."

It's now his team.

"I look back, everything happens for a reason," Love said. "My best friend from back home said, 'It always works out.' This is where I wanted to be. I've said that all along. There were some tough times where potentially I would have been traded and my name came up in rumors every few months. But hopefully that ends now."

Love didn't know when he arrived at the arena that he would be meeting with carpenters, electricians, plumbers and team employees to celebrate his signing. General



**AP** Cleveland Cavaliers center Kevin Love is tightly guarded by the Golden State Warriors' Klay Thompson during the first half of Game 3 of the NBA Finals on Wednesday, June 6, 2018, in Cleveland.

manager Koby Altman wanted to surprise him.

Moments after signing, Love took a selfie with the workers and posted it on Instagram.

"It wasn't even my idea, but I thought it was great," Love said. "I had all the people behind me. It's almost like, to me it's not a rebuild, because we have talent, we have championship-caliber guys, and we have young and fresh guys that are going to be willing to learn

and come along in this league.

"I think guys putting on their hard hats and coming to work every day—that has to be the identity to our team, and I think we have guys that are cut from that cloth and are going to be willing to go out there and prove themselves."

Love will make \$24.1 million next season before the extension begins, making his contract worth \$145 million over five years. Love waived his option for 2019-20 and

there are no other options or trade clauses within the new deal.

He will be paid \$28.9 million in 2019-20, \$31.3 million in 2020-21 and 2021-22, and \$28.8 million in 2022-23.

The deal gives Love obvious financial security, and it locks up an elite player for the Cavaliers, who want to avoid stumbling the way they did when James left the first time in free agency in 2010.

As the NBA waited for

James to make his move earlier this month, Love was with friends on Long Island when he got word that his teammate was bound for LA.

"I was kind of just sitting there in a crowd of people and I go, 'Huh, OK, well, let me go call Koby,'" Love said. "Koby actually ended up calling me and made a couple calls and we need to figure some things out, but here we go, let's build this thing."

Love, who will turn 30 in

September, just completed his fourth season with Cleveland, which was swept by Golden State in the Finals. And although James is elsewhere, Love believes that with him and young players like rookie guard Collin Sexton, forwards Cedi Osman and Larry Nance and others, Cleveland can remain more than competitive.

"You lose the best player in the world, you have to form a new identity," he said. "But I think in some cases what we lose in identity we will make up but we also have in culture. We've always had a culture here that has been very hard working. ... I think we're going to see a lot of guys really having fun and being themselves and playing really hard-nosed basketball."

Altman said it wasn't long after James announced he wasn't coming back that he made his commitment to Love.

"Right after LeBron decided to leave, I called Kevin first," Altman said. "I said: 'Kev, I'm not trading you. I want you to be here and I want you to be a part of this thing,' and he was all in then, too. He's never wavered in his commitment, not once in the four years since we traded for him and not once this summer and, to me, that's really, really meaningful."

"He wants to be a part of this franchise and be the leader. I think he's earned that."



## LOS ANGELES

(AP)—The Los Angeles Rams and running back Todd Gurley have agreed to a four-year contact extension valued at \$60 million.

The deal includes an impressive \$45 million guaranteed, the most guaranteed money ever given to a running back. The final two years of his rookie contract will remain intact, and these years will be added on.

This contract "resets" the running back market. For years, we've seen running back contracts seemingly on the decline as deals for players at other positions have skyrocketed. While the days of backs who only run the ball are seemingly behind us, three-down backs like Gurley are an offensive asset and should be paid as such.

The next-highest paid running back in 2018 in terms of base salary is the Buffalo Bills'

## Gurley agree to 4-year, \$60M deal with Rams

LeSean McCoy, at \$6.075 million. Houston's Lamar Miller will earn \$5 million in base salary this season.

In contrast, 26 receivers and 18 cornerbacks will make at least \$5 million base this year.

Perhaps no player was more emblematic of the issues with Jeff Fisher and his coaching staff than Gurley. As a rookie in 2015, the Baltimore native, who was the 10th overall pick earlier that year, was the Associated Press offensive rookie of the year, with 1,294 yards from scrimmage and 10 touchdowns.

But the next year, with then-rookie Jared Goff at quarterback and the Rams struggling mightily, Gurley's production dipped. By December, he was calling Los Angeles' system "a middle school offense" out of frustration.

Last year, with new head coach Sean McVay, who im-

mediately turned the offense around, Gurley led the NFL in rushing touchdowns (13), yards from scrimmage (2,093) and combined receiving and rushing touchdowns (19).

He was voted the AP offensive player of the year.

Meanwhile, in Cleveland, Baker Mayfield's first win was beating the clock.

The No. 1 overall pick in this year's NFL draft signed his rookie contract on Tuesday with the Cleveland Browns, who believe the quarterback from Oklahoma can lead them back to respectability and more.

Mayfield finalized his four-year, \$32 million deal a day before Cleveland's players are scheduled to report to training camp and avoided being a holdout. Mayfield's contract includes a \$22 million signing bonus.

Rookie cornerback Denzel Ward, selected with the No.

4 overall pick, remains unsigned. But the Browns are hopeful they can also get the former Ohio State star under contract before their first practice on Thursday.

One of college football's most popular and polarizing players, Mayfield is not expected to start in his first season for Cleveland. The Browns acquired former Buffalo quarterback Tyrod Taylor during an offseason trade and coach Hue Jackson has made it clear that the veteran will play until Mayfield is ready.

That doesn't mean Mayfield won't try to beat out Taylor.

"I'm always competitive," he said during rookie camp. "It wouldn't matter what (Jackson) was saying in regards to the competition. I'm still going to compete and try and win that job."

Mayfield, who was a two-

time walk-on in college, won the Heisman Trophy last season after he passed for 4,627 yards and 43 touchdowns. Despite some questions about his character after an off-field incident and some well-publicized antics during games, the Browns chose him over several other top-tier college QBs in April's draft.

Mayfield impressed coaches and teammates with his attitude and work ethic during spring workouts, but he still has a ways to go before he can unseat Taylor, who ended the Bills' long playoff drought last season.

Cleveland has spent nearly the past two decades searching for its franchise quarterback and hope Mayfield can finally end its quest.

The Browns are coming off a 0-16 season, but there is renewed optimism following an offseason roster overhaul that included the acquisition

of Taylor, wide receiver Jarvis Landry and linebacker Mychal Kendricks.

After transferring from Texas Tech, Mayfield started 39 games for the Sooners. He finished his career with 14,607 yards passing and 131 touchdowns. He also ended ranked second in FBS history in passing efficiency rating (175.4), third in yards per attempt (9.7) and tied for fourth in touchdown passes.

In New Jersey, Darrelle Revis officially shut down his dominant playing career by signing one final contract.

The seven-time Pro Bowl cornerback who routinely frustrated opposing receivers with his blanket-like coverage officially retired Tuesday as a member of the New York Jets—the team with which Revis spent eight of his 11 NFL seasons.

The 33-year-old Revis inked a one-day deal with the Jets at a ceremonial news conference at the team's facility.

# Mbappe, Modric vie for FIFA best player award

GENEVA (AP)—World Cup stars Kylian Mbappe and Luka Modric will lead the challenge against a decade-long dominance of FIFA's best player award by Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi.

Mbappe, the teenage star of France's World Cup-winning team, and Modric, the Croatia captain who was named the tournament's best player, joined five-time winners Ronaldo and Messi among 10 candidates announced by FIFA on Tuesday.

For the first time, FIFA has opened voting within days of the World Cup, where Ronaldo and Messi both exited in the round of 16.

France also has Antoine Griezmann and Raphael Varane,



France's Antoine Griezmann, left, points to two stars on his jersey indicating two world cup wins, as he celebrates with Paul Pogba, center, and Kylian Mbappe after the final match between France and Croatia at the 2018 soccer World Cup in the Luzhniki Stadium in Moscow, Russia, Sunday, July 15, 2018.

coach Carlos Alberto Parreira.

Belgium, which lost to France in the semifinals, has Kevin De Bruyne and Eden Hazard on the shortlist.

It is completed by World Cup golden boot winner Harry Kane of England and Mohamed Salah, the Egypt forward who was inspirational in Liverpool's run to the Cham-

pions League final.

The winners announced in London on Sept. 24 are voted by national coaches and captains, plus media from FIFA's 211 member countries, and fans voting online. Three finalists will be announced before the ceremony.

France could sweep the main awards with Didier Deschamps and Zinedine Zidane heading 11 candidates for the best men's coach.

Deschamps led France to the World Cup title, and his 1998 World Cup-winning teammate Zidane completed his Champions League hat trick with Madrid. Zidane, who has since left the club, won the FIFA award when coaching Barcelona.

The other nominees are: Massimiliano Allegri (Juventus), Juergen Klopp (Liverpool), Diego Simeone (Atletico Madrid), Ernesto Valverde (Barcelona).



who won a third straight Champions League title alongside Modric and Ronaldo with Real Madrid, on the FIFA list.

Varane is the only defender selected by a FIFA expert

panel which did not pick Brazil star Neymar. The 13-man panel included three Brazilians—former FIFA award winners Ronaldo and Kaka, and 1994 World Cup-winning

shall Zang.

In the girls U16 singles, only two CNMI bets—Malika Miyawaki and Conatsu Kaga—qualified to the quarterfinals.

Miyawaki placed second in Group B, as she fell to Fiji's Saorise Breen yesterday for a 1-1 record. Kaga also had a 1-1 slate in Group D, winning her last match in the pool against Fiji's Kajol Chand, 6-0, 6-0. Both CNMI bets will be going up against seeded players in the quarterfinals with Kaga taking on the No. 2 seed Breen and

Miyawaki facing No. 4 Lea Lamoelle of Tahiti. In the two other quarterfinal matches, it will be No. 1 Eleanor Schuster over fellow Samoan player Chrystal Christman and Vanuatu's Desiree Signo against compatriot and No. 3 seed Rosalie Molbaleh.

In the boys U14 singles, the Commonwealth also has two entries in the quarterfinals in Jimin Woo and Seung Jin Paik.

Woo was unbeaten in three games in Group B, completing the sweep with a 6-2, 7-5

win over Tahiti's Ariitea Cotti-Helme yesterday. Paik also topped Group D and logged a 3-1 mark after winning back-to-back games yesterday against the Federated States of Micronesia's Jones George, 7-5, 7-6, and New Caledonia's Tiago Lopes, 7-6, 6-2.

Paik and Woo's quarterfinals foes have yet to be determined as off press time with organizers still finalizing the qualifiers from the other pools.

In the girls U14 singles, the quarterfinals cast was completed with the CNMI's

of the sixth inning sparked the CNMI's comeback. A.J. Lizama then made a sacrifice fly to move the team within one, 6-7, while Tenorio reached off a wild pitch to knot the count.

However, Pohnpei regained the upper hand at the top of the seventh after getting an earned run. Pohnpei went on to keep the shaky lead and the win as its defense frustrated the CNMI in the last three innings.

The Commonwealth was called for two quick outs at the bottom of the seventh and the third out came a couple of plays later with its runner caught stealing second. The CNMI then had its best chance to either tie the match anew or take the lead when it loaded the bases at the bottom of the eighth with two outs. However, A.J. Lizama flied out to center, moving Pohnpei one complete inning away from pulling off an upset against the CNMI, which came into the finals with a perfect 5-0 mark.

The scored remained at the top of the last inning with the Commonwealth holding its ground on defense, too to stay in contention. However, Pohnpei also played solid defense at the bottom of the ninth with a 1-2-3 play. Nokki Saralu and Shane Yamade went down on 6-3 and 4-3 plays, respectively, while Franklin Lizama was struck out.

Coume Kaga making the grade. She was unscathed in Group C, earning a perfect 3-0 record after dominating Fiji's Charlotte Nicolaus yesterday, 6-2, 6-0. The No. 3 seed Kaga will be paired against the unranked Chrissy Vonge of Tahiti in the quarterfinals.

Meanwhile, David Kwon and Anthony Gregoire bowed to Pacific Boys' Jonny Jackson and Heremana Courte in the U12 team event. Jackson defeated Kwon in the first singles

match, 6-0, 6-2, while Courte downed Gregoire in the other singles game, 6-1, 6-0, to hand Pacific Boys the early win.

The CNMI duo fell to a 1-2 mark in the team competition and is likely to miss the playoffs, as only the Top 2 squads after the pool play will advance to the next round. Gregoire and Kwon's other loss was against Vanuatu 2 and they will play their last game in the pool today against Tahiti.

## BLUE

From Page 28

fier for the 2019 EAFF E-1 Football Championship and will take place in Ulan Bator in Mongolia this September.

"We lost matches, however the boys played their best in all matches and never gave up until the end. I appreciate our boys hard work and how they understand the objectives of our training camp in Japan," Mita said.

Blue Ayuyus captain Jon Takano said the matches against the Japanese teams were the kind of games they need with less than three months to go before they play in the qualifier against the host, Macau, and Guam.

"It was definitely a great experience for the team. This new men's team is made of a large number of youth players.

To grow and become mature, we all need to have better experiences. We are lucky to have had this Japanese training camp a few months before the EAFF event," Takano said.

"Now we all know what we are lacking of, not just only in soccer skills and conditioning, but mentally—that's the area that we really need to improve on. I'm certain that we can get better and have a better preparation for EAFF. We gained more experienced than the number we got scored from the whole games," he added.

Vice captain Enrico Del

Rosario echoed Takano's observations.

"The training camp was a good experience and we learned a lot from it. We played against some good teams and they will prepare us for the EAFF tournament," Del Rosario said.

Mita, on the other hand, took note of the team's improved chemistry.

"I saw improvement in the team chemistry on and off the pitch. We had a lot of discussion and meeting during the camp so we are able to know more about our team and each other. This is a huge advantage in building a better team toward the EAFF competition. We will keep working hard in the last five weeks and we will show our best NMI football in the EAFF tournament," Mita said.

Meanwhile, team manager Norman Del Rosario and Northern Mariana Islands Football Association would like to thank Japan Football Association and Seisa Group for their assistance to the Blue Ayuyus.

"We got tremendous support from JFA and Seisa group again, especially Seisa president Yasuo Miyazawa and director of Hakone accommodation Mr. Anno for treating us as special guests. They always made us feel comfortable and happy while we were in Hakone. We would also like to thank JFA's Satoru Nakamura and Eri Dekitani for all their help," the team manager said.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
A CNMI player catches the ball, while a Pohnpei runner heads to first base during the top of the third inning of their gold medal game in the 9th Micronesian Games in Yap yesterday.

medals each.

With the weightlifters' contribution, the CNMI finished yesterday's competition with a 9-18-9 tally. The Marshall Islands jumped from seventh to first place with its 28-15-4 tally, while Guam is at close second with its 27-12-12. Palau is not far behind at third with its 27-11-12.

## Baseball team settles for silver

The weightlifting squad's medal rush somehow eased the pain of the CNMI's loss in

the baseball finals yesterday.

Pohnpei handed the Commonwealth another bridesmaid finish after holding on to an 8-7 victory in the gold medal game. The CNMI last won the gold medal in the 2006 edition of the Games before losing to Palau in 2010 and against Guam in 2014.

Pohnpei got off to a good start, leading at 7-3 after five complete innings and then hung tough in the end to foil the CNMI's comeback bid.

A two-run single from Anthony Tenorio at the bottom

# CNMI vs Macau in EAFF U15 Boys Tournament 2018

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



The CNMI's starting 11 huddle before the start of their game against Macau in the East Asian Football Federation U15 Boys Tournament 2018 in Xianghe, China, last Monday. The CNMI won, 1-0.



Rintaro Miyawaki, right, celebrates with his teammates after scoring a goal in the 15th minute.



CNMI defenders surround Macau's Lai Teng Ng.



The CNMI's Jon Villagomez, right, dribbles, while Rintaro Miyawaki stays close in the play.



The CNMI's Taka Borja gets ready to kick the ball.



Assistant coach Jersh Angeles gives instructions to CNMI players during a halftime break.



Head coach Michiteru Mita gives pointers to some players before their game against Macau.



Phillies outlast  
Dodgers in  
16-inning  
marathon

PAGE 24

# Saipan Tribune Sports

Cavaliers  
sign Love to  
4-year, \$120M  
extension

PAGE 25



28 THURSDAY, JULY 26, 2018

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Weightlifters raise CNMI's medal haul

### 8 jr. tennis players enter playoffs

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Eight members of the CNMI Junior Tennis Team made the cut in the singles event in the 2018 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships.



In the boys U16 singles, Sean Lee, Robbie Schorr, and Ken Song qualified in the quarterfinals after placing in the Top 2 in their respective pools. Schorr ruled

See 8 on Page 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Conatsu Kaga, seen here playing in a competition in Fiji last month, qualified in the quarterfinals of the girls U16 singles event in the 2018 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Group C as he finished the eliminations with a 2-0 record following a 6-0, 6-0 win over the Solomon Islands' Junior Micky yesterday at the Nadove Park in Fiji. Song had a 2-1 mark and placed No. 2 in Group D after downing Joel Riju, also of the Solomon Islands. In Group A, Sean Lee had a 1-1 mark, but still make the grade despite dropping his

See 8 on Page 26



Reigning Northern Marianas Sports Association Male Athlete of the Year Angel San Nicolas led the weightlifting squad's medal rush after sweeping the men's 105-kilogram's clean & jerk, snatch, and total. San Nicolas was first to have a 130-kg lift in the clean & jerk to beat Yap's Alvin Reeuemau, while in the snatch, the former submitted 110kg against the 90kg of the latter. For the total lift, San Nicolas had 240kg versus the 220kg of Reeuemau.

In the women's 90-kg division, Antoinette Labausa also had a perfect performance after prevailing against Bonnie Cruz in an all-CNMI duel.

See CNMI'S on Page 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
The CNMI's Rodrigo Ada, left, makes it to the podium during the medals presentation for the weightlifting competition in the men's 94-kg division yesterday in the 9th Micronesian Games in Yap.

### Blue Ayuyus welcome 'pains' from training camp

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The CNMI Men's National Team training pool met a lot of adversaries during their training camp in Japan last week and embraced them to prep for the even tougher challenges ahead.

The Blue Ayuyus brought 18 players from the pool for the July 17-22 training camp and played against Shonan Bellmare, Shonan Koka-dai, Seisa Kokusai, and Nittai University besides holding rigorous practice sessions.

"We got a lot of 'pain' during the training camp, facing much stronger teams in a hot, humid, and very different environment, losing matches, and playing with tired bodies. But players decided and



accepted these conditions. They know we need to go through a lot of these pains in this training camp to bring our

team to the next level before the EAFF tournament," head coach Michiteru Mita said.

Mita's wards had the train-

ing camp in Japan to get ready for the EAFF E-1 Men's Preliminary Round 1—a quali-

See BLUE on Page 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI's Jon Takano, left, tries to get a better position against a Seisa Kokusai player during their training match in Japan last week.

